

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

October 7.—Yesterday the Army Service Companies selected for duty in South Africa sailed from Southampton on the Braemar Castle and were given an enthusiastic send-off. Prince Christian Victor left Waterloo in a special train. Princess Christian attended to bid him farewell.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, addressing a Liberal meeting at Maidstone, said with regard to the Transvaal crisis: No one could tell what we were going to war about. He saw no reason to believe that diplomacy had said its last word, and explained the touchiness of the Boers on the subject of the suzerainty by their suspicion of ultimate designs against their independence, though such designs were repudiated by all parties in this country. After laying stress upon the absolute necessity of maintaining the supremacy of Great Britain in South Africa, he appealed to all to save the Empire from so dire a calamity as a war incurred on grounds, in his opinion, wholly insufficient.

Mr. Morley, speaking at Carnarvon, justified his action in pleading for peace even in the last minutes of the eleventh hour, and severely condemned the present attitude of Government.

A proclamation for the mobilisation of the first class army reserve issued from the War Office applies to 60,000 men, of whom 25,000 will rejoin the colours for service in South Africa.

President Steyn, replying to Sir A. Milner, on October 3rd, denied that there were even fair grounds for the movements of British troops, and said the Boers could not be blamed for the steps they had taken in Johannesburg. Orders have been given for the closing of all bars attached to the hotels. Coloured people must be indoors after seven in the evening. It is expected that the police will order the barricades to be removed from the houses.

October 11.—The Boer Ultimatum was received by the British Agent at Pretoria on the 9th instant. It complains of the British Government breaking off friendly correspondence in its Note of September 25th and intimating that it must now formulate new proposals, which the Boers maintain constitutes a new violation of the Convention of 1884. The Note also complains of the increase of troops on the border of the Republic, which the Boer Government regards as a threat against its independence. An intolerable condition of things has arisen and the Boer Government feels called upon to press earnestly for its immediate termination, and for an assurance—(a) that all the points of mutual difference be regulated by a friendly course of arbitration or by whatever amicable way may be agreed upon by this Government with Her Majesty's Government; (b) that the troops on the borders of the Republic be instantly withdrawn; (c) that all re-inforcements which have arrived in South Africa since the 1st of June be removed from South Africa, within a reasonable time to be agreed upon with this Government, and with a mutual assurance and guarantee on the part of this Government that no attack upon or hostilities against any portion of the possessions of the British Government shall be made by the Republic during further negotiations within a period of time to be subsequently agreed upon between the two Governments, and this Government will, on a compliance therewith, be prepared to withdraw the armed burghers of the Republic from the borders; and (d) that Her Majesty's troops now on the high seas shall not be landed in any port of South Africa. The Note continues: "This Government must press for an immediate and affirmative answer to these four questions, and earnestly requests Her Majesty's Government to return such answer before or upon Wednesday, the 11th October, 1899, not later than 5 o'clock P. M.; and desires further to add that, in the event of no satisfactory answer being received by it within the interval, it will with great regret be compelled to regard the action of Her Majesty's Government as a formal declaration of war, and will not hold itself responsible for the consequences thereof; and that in the event any further movements of troops taking place within the above mentioned time in nearer direction of the borders, this Government will be compelled to regard that also as a formal declaration of war."

October 12.—A curt refusal of the Ultimatum has been handed to the Boer authorities. There is complete unanimity in the press approving of its rejection.

Lord Rosebery, in reply to a correspondent, says that while there has been much in the relations of our Government with that of the Transvaal to criticise, if not to condemn, an Ultimatum has been addressed to Great Britain which in itself is a declaration of war. In the face of this attack the nation will close its ranks and relegate party controversy to a more convenient season. In a closing sentence he states his profound conviction that no conceivable Government in the country could repeat the policy of concluding peace after a reverse like Majuba.

Speaking at Haddington, Mr. Balfour said that a long and weary crisis had reached the turning point, not by any action of Her Majesty's Government, and not by any desire to press harshly those with whom they were in disagreement. The diplomatic controversy, which might be said to have commenced on the morning of the signing of the Convention of 1881, had now reached a stage when diplomacy was put aside, when agreements ceased, and when an appeal was made to arms. War had been forced upon them because this country desired to see established in South Africa a state of things under which alone peace was possible.

At Dundee, Mr. Asquith said that at this very moment war existed between Great Britain and a country inhabited by men of the same colour and blood. He had always credited Her Majesty's Government, and did so now, with a sincere and honest desire to avoid war. It seemed incredible that the other side should strike the first blow in a conflict which could have but one issue. According to the Convention the suzerainty was still in force, but apart from that we had the right of intervention according to the general principles of law and equity as the paramount Power. The handling of the problem by the Boers was such as no civilised country could permit. The issue raised by the ill-starred despatch of the Transvaal Government was one which could not be shirked by us. It was one we were bound to take.

The Government of Natal have received an offer from the refugees to form an auxiliary corps of 3,000 men.

Sir Alfred Milner has issued a proclamation declaring that all who abet the enemy in a state of war with Great Britain are guilty of high treason.

On his birthday President Kruger addressed the burghers and bade them "trust in the Almighty, who directed every bullet."

October 13.—On Wednesday Mr. Schreiner, the Cape Premier, issued a Circular to the field cornets throughout the Colony directing them to quiet and soothe the race feeling in their wards and to refrain from rash action, and prove themselves and the people loyal subjects of the Queen.

An official statement has been issued by the United States Government to the effect that Mr. McKinley has received a large number of petitions, some urging him to tender his mediation to settle the differences between Great Britain and the Transvaal, others desiring him to make common cause with Great Britain, and others asking him to assist the Boers. Mr. McKinley does not think it expedient to take action in either party in the dispute is not to be thought of. His mediation has not been asked by either of the countries interested, and nothing in the rules of international usage justify its being offered.

Mr. Conyngham Greene, the British Agent at Pretoria, took leave of Mr. Kruger on Wednesday and left at night for Cape Town.

Mr. Kruger has sent a telegram to the *New York World* thanking the Americans for their sympathy. The Republics are determined, if they must belong to England, that a price will have to be paid which will stagger humanity. They have, however, full faith that the sun of Liberty will arise in South Africa as it arose in North America.

President Steyn has issued a Proclamation calling on the burghers of the Free State to assist the Transvaal in resisting the attack of an unscrupulous enemy and a treaty-breaker. He states that a compliance with the British demands would be equivalent to the loss of the Free State's independence.

The European press is nearly unanimous in its anti-English tone. On the other hand, great enthusiasm is being shown in the Colonies in support of the mother country.

MAFEKING, Oct. 11 (Reuter).—An old Englishman who has lived for twenty years in the Transvaal, and whose three sons have been commanded for service by the Boer Government, has arrived here. He says that the Boers have come to an arrangement with the chief Linchwe under which he will take arms against the British.

There was a field-day to-day, and no one was allowed to leave either by train or road without a special permit. No passes were granted to able-bodied men. Half-a-battery of the Kimberley Artillery has arrived, and confidence in the ability of the forces organised under Col. Baden-Powell to repulse the Boers is increasing.

Oct. 12.—A strong force has just moved out of the town towards the border, taking big guns and an ambulance equipment.

Later.—The object of the movement of troops outside the town was to take up a strong defensive position, and Col. Baden-Powell's forces are now disposed so as to repel any attack. Up to the present there are no signs of a Boer advance.

Tuli, Oct. 11.—Colonel Plumer arrived here yesterday. The first squadron of the Special Corps arrived this morning and camped outside the town. The Native Commissioner has warned the natives to remove all their cattle from the vicinity of the border. Great excitement prevails on account of the Boer Ultimatum.

Cape Town, Oct. 11 (Reuter).—The *Argus* announces that all available troops from the garrison in the Cape district were despatched to De Aar, the important junction on the Cape railway system, during the night. Among the troops sent thither were the Northumberlanders, who have only just arrived. The utmost activity prevails in the military centres.

Pietermaritzburg, Oct. 11.—A deputation, headed by Mr. Hosken, chairman of the Uitlanders' Council, waited upon the Governor of Natal yesterday to propose the formation of a Uitlander Infantry corps, 3,000 strong, of which 500 men were ready to serve without pay. Generals White, Symons, and Hunter were present at the interview. The Governor expressed the opinion that the corps should be imperial, not colonial, and offered on behalf of Natal to supply 1,000 rifles and a proportionate quantity of equipment. He also promised to ask Mr. Chamberlain to authorise the enrolment of 1,000 men. Sir George White concurred with the Governor's views.

The transport *Lindula* has arrived with a squadron of the 5th Dragoon Guards from India. The men landed this afternoon.

Cape Town, Oct. 11.—Sir Alfred Milner, the High Commissioner, has issued a Proclamation declaring that all persons who abet the enemy in a state of war with Great Britain are guilty of high treason.

The *Daily Telegraph's* war correspondent, telegraphing from Ladysmith about six o'clock, yesterday evening, says:—

The war has begun, and the Boers are in Natal.

The Free State burghers have seized the Harrismith train this afternoon at the place. It is the property of the Natal Government.

To-night companies of Infantry will bivouac upon the hills, our force is standing to arms, and our outposts have been strengthened.

Last night a mounted patrol was stoned by the Boers. The men's orders were not to fire unless they were fired upon.

Ladysmith is now all agog with excitement. A detachment of the Gordon Highlanders, preceded by their pipers, marched to the railway station for the purpose of sending their colours back to Pietermaritzburg, and all the other regiments which are at the front, acting under the new rules, have left their emblems behind.

The Governor, Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, has had the colours deposited in Government House, where I saw the flags.

It appears that the train seized by the Free Staters at Harrismith was due to leave on its return journey at 3-30 this afternoon, arriving here at 7-5.

The British railway guard, a man named Hanafey, was permitted to wire to his family shortly after the seizure of the train.

The officials at Van Reenan's and Brakwal stations were coming home to-morrow.

Pietermaritzburg, Oct. 10 (*Daily Telegraph*).—Reports are current that the Boers are advancing on Van Reenan's Pass. Fighting is considered probably within the next forty-eight hours.

Sir W. F. Hely-Hutchinson, the Governor of Natal, to-day received a deputation of Johannesburg refugees who offered to form an auxiliary corps of 3,000 men. The Governor and also Lieut.-Gen. Sir George White spoke favourably of the proposals.

The Times special correspondent has been visiting the Boer camp at Sandfontein. He wrote from Hoofdlager, Oct. 9:—

By the kindness of General Joubert I have been allowed to pay a visit to the Boer forces here, but although I have been here, four days nothing noteworthy has occurred.

The strength of the Boers at this point of the frontier is about 8,000, scattered in various camps over wide areas. The General's headquarters and the artillery camp are half-a-mile from Sandfontein station and about ten miles from the border. In addition to the Boer commandos, a Hollanders corps and an Irish corps are here, each about 250 strong, and two German corps, one of the latter under Col. Schiel being at Klip River, near the Free State border. The frontier is carefully patrolled, but, by the General's special orders, no large bodies of armed burghers are allowed to show themselves near the frontier, and none at all are allowed to cross.

The arrangement of the camps and the commissariat is rough and ready, and there is little drill and discipline as understood in European armies, but the general result is quite satisfactory, each man or small mess looking after their own affairs. When the burghers first arrived from home, there was confusion owing to the delay in the arrival of the necessary commissariat, but now there is an abundance of food and equipment. The only defect is a want of good water.

Cape Town, Oct. 10.—The moral of the Free State force is said to be far from good.

Reuter's agent at Mafeking reports (Oct. 10):—

Every preparation had been made last night to meet an attack by the Boers. No alarm, however, was raised. The prevailing excitement was increased by the news that the wires had been cut. It was ascertained later that they had really been broken by the fighting top of an armoured train, which through an oversight, had not been lowered. The strength of the Boer force under Commandant Cronje is estimated at 4,000.

The Boers on the Bechuanaland border are very restless. A section of them wish to make an attack upon this town, while others, being dissatisfied at the delay in opening hostilities, are desirous of returning home.

An Englishman who was born in the Transvaal has arrived here. He says that the Boers are rather apprehensive of a raid by Col. Baden-Powell. They think they will have little difficulty in dealing with the imperial troops in Natal, but they have greater respect for Col. Baden-Powell's force, which consists chiefly of Colonials who are as good marksmen as the burghers themselves.

THE MARRIAGE MEDIARY.

ARTHUR SLAVIN JONES, a clerk, was sent to gaol for six months in the second division at Clerkenwell Sessions for obtaining money by false and fraudulent pretences.

The prisoner had had elaborate circulars printed, and inserted in a weekly newspaper advertisements of a most alluring matrimonial character. He posed as the head of the "Mutual Benefit Bureau and Fashionable Marriage Advertiser," and as the "marriage negotiator for the no illity, gentry, commercial, and other classes." People believing the statements to be genuine forwarded the preliminary sums demanded, and subsequently received from Jones some excuse or other, such as that the guardian of the lady was strongly opposed to the marriage.

According to the advertisements the lady was of tender years, generally beautiful and always well off. The result was, said Mr. W. H. Leicester, who prosecuted, that many people had been defrauded.

A young gentleman, a cork cutter, from Old Ford, in receipt of 25s. a week, seems to have believed that for the sum of £2 he was going to be introduced to a young lady with £2,000 in the bank—(loud laughter)—and estates in Ceylon bringing in £800 a year. (Laughter.)

A widow named Coomber, a charwoman by trade, and 49 years of age, with two little boys to support—(laughter)—was thought to be introduced to a dark gentleman with black beard and blue eyes—(laughter)—and £600 a year, who had always been interested in missionary matters had wanted a woman to become his wife, and go abroad with him to help him in his duties.

Jones's great concern was lest some of his victims should give information to the police. So he supplied the shop-keepers from where he addressed his letters with a card saying that on account of the delicate nature of his business he found it absolutely necessary to use the address as the receiving depot for his letters only. A fee enclosed could secure an interview at his private offices.

The victims rarely paid this further fee.

Mr. Arthur Hutton for the defence said that at 14 years of age his client was sent to a private school, and later was placed under a tutor for preparation for the army. At 17, however, he went off to America on the advice of his uncle, a general in the army, remaining there for some time, his health became bad and he returned to England, where he stayed with his mother.

At 21 years of age he came into £3,000 and when he got it he went off to Texas and bought a ranch, but lost his money. After that he met a man who suggested this matrimonial agency, and he (counsel) was informed that marriages had resulted from the prisoner's introductions.

Mr. O'Connell, Q. C. in passing sentence said the only mitigating circumstance in the case was the fact that there was such a greater number of fools ready to jump at the gilded flies thrown at them.

THERE are about five hundred famine refugees from Bikanir in Lahore; they will probably be employed on the improvement of the Grand Trunk Road to the north of the City to the frontier.

THE mortality of the City of Madras increased from 16,000 during the previous year to 20,000 out of a population of 4½ lakhs. Fevers, which are very prevalent in an endemic malarial form, accounted for 5,500 deaths; bowel complaints for 3,000; cholera 800, and small-pox only slightly over 100; while there were some deaths from plague, all of them having been imported cases. On the other hand there were 18,700 births (9,700 being males), being the same as during the previous year; the infant mortality, however, rose from 370 to 400 per mille. The effects of famine were felt by the appreciable rise in the prices of staple articles of food, the price of rice having risen by about 25 per cent., and that of *ragi* by 33 per cent.

SIEGE OF GAWILGHUR.

By CAPTAIN R. G. BURTON, 1st INFANTRY, H. C.

PERHAPS it is somewhat of a misnomer to apply the term "battle" to a siege. However, it may not be out of place to conclude this series of sketches of battles of the Deccan with some account of the storming of a stronghold, whose capture was the final episode of Wellesley's operations against the Mahrattas.

Northwards from the field of Argam, at a distance of some ten miles from that place, the horizon is bounded by a long range of comparatively high mountains, an offshoot of the Satpuras running east and west and stretching north to the Taptee River. Some of the peaks of this range can be seen to rise far above the others, culminating at a height of nearly 4,000 feet above the level of the sea, and 2,000 feet higher than the fertile valley below.

As the eye glances along the line of hills the attention is arrested by what is evidently the enceinte of a great fort due north from Argam, whilst some thirty miles along the range to the north-east the outline of another fort, crowning the summit of one of the highest mountains meets the view. The former is the fort of Narnala; the latter—the more famous stronghold of Gawilghur.

From the walls of Gawilghur, on a clear day, one can look out far across the alluvial plain beneath, where the fertile land, weighted in due season with millet, cotton and wheat crops, stretches to the south as far as the eye can reach. This valley was formerly a favourite hunting-ground of the hordes of Pindaree horsemen, who, in the turbulent days gone by, used to levy contributions on the inhabitants of the wealthy towns and villages that are dotted in profusion over the plain.

Some three miles from Ellichpore, the only cantonment in Berar, now garrisoned by a regiment of infantry and battery of field artillery of the Hyderabad Contingent, the road to the north-west splits into two branches, both of which lead to Gawilghur—one, a somewhat circuitous way, through the villages of Dhamangaon and Moia, the other by way of the hamlets of Deogaon and Imliabagh, the path entering the hills through the valley of the Chandrabhaga River, a considerable stream in the rainy season, but a dry, stony water-course during the greater part of the year.

About twelve miles along this latter road through Deogaon is a point where the hill rises abruptly from the plain. A further steep ascent of some three miles by a winding path, where a horseman can with difficulty climb the rugged slope of the mountain, brings one to the summit of the ghat at the neck of a great spur that juts out to the south. This spur, with rocky and precipitous sides, steepest at its southern extremity, forms a natural bastion, and is crowned by the fort of Gawilghur. The Deogaon road leads to the north-west gate of the fort, whilst a pathway up the spur from Imliabagh brings one to the small sally-port which Wellesley in his despatches terms the south gate. The Dhamangaon road, which is less steep, but about four miles longer, winds round the eastern side of the spur leading to the northern face of the fort, but it would appear that the attacking force must have marched by an even more circuitous route, as Wellesley states that the distance was thirty miles.

After the battle of Argam, which was on November 30th, 1803, Wellesley at once proceeded to besiege the fort of Gawilghur, leaving his sick and wounded at Ellichpore, whence he advanced on December 6th. Colonel Stevenson's force consisting of the 1st battalion, 2nd Regiment, two companies of the 94th, and the 1st battalion of the 6th—marched by a circuitous route from Dhamangaon, a fortified village which was first captured, whilst the remainder of the division proceeded by way of Deogaon to invest the fortress from the south.

The fort is thus described in the Wellington Despatches:—

"The fort of Gawilghur is situated in a range of mountains between the sources of the Rivers Poonah (Purna) and Taptee. It stands on a lofty mountain in this range, and consists of one complete inner fort, which fronts to the south, where the rock is most steep, and an outer fort which covers the inner to the north-west and north.

This outer fort has a third wall, which covers the approach to it from the north by the village of Labada. All these walls are strongly built and fortified by ramparts and towers.

The communications with the fort are by three gates: one to the south with the inner fort; one to the north-west with the outer fort; and one to the north with the third wall. The ascent to the first is very long and steep, and practicable only for men; that to the second is by a road used for the common communications of the garrison with the countries to the southward; but the road passes round the west side of the fort, and is exposed for a great distance to its fire; it is so narrow as to make it impracticable to approach regularly by it and the rock is scarped on each side. This road also leads no farther than the gate. The communication with the northern gate is direct from the village of Labada, and here the ground is level with that of the fort, but the road to Labada leads through the mountains for about thirty miles from Ellichpore, and it was obvious that much difficulty and labour of moving ordnance and stores to Labada would be very great."

This is a very lucid account of the fort as it still remains. From the south it was practically impregnable. The southern portion of the fort, forming as it were a citadel, and separated by a deep gully from the outer work, is accessible from the south only by a small sally-port, on which guns could not be brought to bear effectively, whilst the entry by the north-west gate was impossible unless the gate could be blown in—a task rendered extremely difficult as all the approaches were under fire.

Such were the difficulties that presented themselves to the consideration of the British Commander; but, with the aid of his tired and trusty troops, they were seen to be not unmountable. The plan of attack was well conceived and executed the northern wall being chosen for assault, whilst a diversion was made to draw the enemy's attention to the south.

To Colonel Stevenson was assigned the task of storming the fort, whilst Wellesley invested it from the south. On the night of the 12th December, Colonel Stevenson's force having, with great labour, dragged the guns and stores over the mountains by roads which the troops themselves constructed, erected two batteries near the village of Labada (which has

now disappeared) in front of the north face of the fort, where the gate was protected by an inundation crossed by a stone causeway.

Fire was opened on the 13th; by the night of the 14th the breach in the outer wall, which can still be traced, was practicable, and at ten o'clock next morning this obstacle was carried by the 94th Regiment and the native corps. The wall of the inner fort was then escalated by the light company of the 94th, the gates were opened to admit the storming party, and the stronghold was soon in the hands of the assailants. The garrison consisted of Rajputs and of Beni Singh's infantry which had escaped from the battle of Argam. Numbers of the enemy, who fought desperately, were slain, including Beni Singh and the killedar, or commander of the fort.

In attempting to escape from the north-west gate during the assault the enemy was met by a detachment of the 78th and 10th Regiments under Colonel Chalmers, who had been sent to co-operate with Stevenson, and arrived at this opportune moment. Thus every way of egress was barred, for the southern gate was covered by Wellesley's brass guns and the remainder of his force. Beni Singh had directed that his wives and daughters were to be slaughtered, so that they should not fall into the hands of the enemy, but the work of assassin was fortunately not fully carried out, owing either to the humanity or carelessness of those appointed to perform the deed. Only three of the unfortunate women were killed, and a few were slightly wounded.

It was expected that considerable treasure would be found in the fort, but the expectations of the besiegers were not fulfilled, for nothing of value was discovered. It is supposed that the treasure known to exist must have been removed before the commencement of the siege, or it may have been concealed within the walls, but to this day it has not been found. I recollect that in 1891, when a large tank in the fort was drained, it was thought possible that some articles of value might be found, as there was a tradition that the Rajput women had cast their ornaments into it, but nothing was discovered.

The fort of Gawilghur had been hitherto deemed impregnable by the Mahrattas, or they would in all probability have made no attempt to hold it after their defeat at Argam. "This well-planned, vigorous and brilliant enterprise brought the war to a speedy conclusion. The Rajah of Berar, sensible of his inability to resist the further progress of the British arms, alarmed for the safety of his dominions and amazed at the rapidity of General Wellesley's operations even in that mountainous country into which the war was now carried saw no prudent or safe alternative, but to sue for an immediate and separate peace without waiting for the opinion or the determination of his ally." (*Asiatic Register*).

Treaties of peace, advantageous to the British Government and their ally, the Nizam of Hyderabad, were shortly afterwards concluded with both Scindiah and the Rajah of Berar. The turreted walls of the fort of Gawilghur are still in an excellent state of preservation, whilst some of the guns about a dozen in all including two of very large size that were used by the defenders remain to this day, lying among the rank undergrowth within the walls. The fort is uninhabited save for some squalid huts just within the northern gate; where reside a few families, who are perhaps descendants of those who defended the fort 96 years ago. Otherwise the place is abandoned, and the jungle has been let in. A couple of miles to the north is the small hill station off Khalkada, and beyond that for many leagues a vast extent of forest, inhabited only by a race of aborigines allied to the Gonds, stretches to the Taptee River which forms the northern boundary of Berar.

MAIL NEWS.

CENTRAL and Eastern Japan were visited by a typhoon, which blew a train passing over a bridge into a river and caused the death of six persons.

DIJAVED Bey, son of the Grand Vizier of Turkey, has been assassinated by an Albanian officer at Constantinople. The tragedy created a serious panic in the city.

FOUR thousand people are reported to have been killed and five hundred injured in a disastrous earthquake on the Island of Ceram in the Dutch East Indies. Details of this appalling catastrophe are wanting.

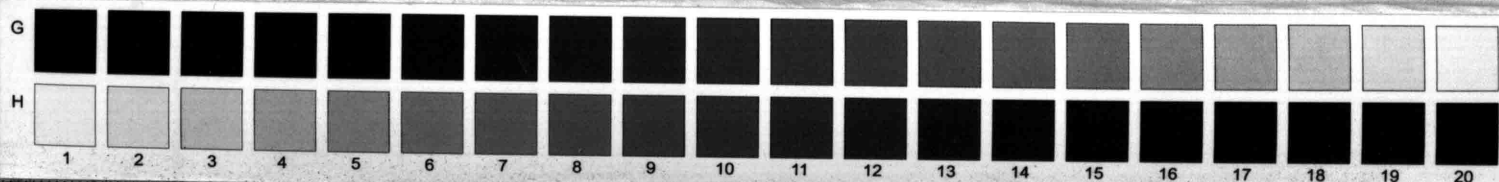
LIEUTENANT VON QUEIS, District Commissioner of Rio del Rey, in German South-West Africa Herr Lovmeyer, and about 100 soldiers, and native carriers have been massacred by the natives of the interior near the English boundary.

AN Imperial Ir-de has been published at Constantinople promising the Armenians all the reforms for which they have been pressing, and the Patriarch will now withdraw his resignation. The execution of the reforms is said to be "a question of the future."

AT the temple at Karnak, on the site of ancient Thebes in Egypt, nine columns in the great hall built by Setee I. and completed by Ramses II. have fallen down. More than a hundred are still intact, but the fall of nine gives warning that the structure need careful attention. It has already stood over three thousand years.

THE consular report on the trade and commerce of Havana for the year 1898 states that with the advent of peace the resources of the island offer many inducements to the employment of British capital. The principal industries of Cuba are the production of sugar and tobacco, and little attention has been paid in the past to the mineral and other resources of the island, which are undoubtedly great. The vast forests of valuable timber, which cover large tracts of the interior of the island await only the construction of railways to render their working profitable. The cultivation of fruit for exportation to the United States is capable of large development; the growing of tomatoes would also prove a profitable business, and it has the advantage that it can be undertaken by persons of comparatively limited means.

IN supersession of the existing exchange through the agency of the British Post Office, an arrangement has now been concluded for the introduction of a direct exchange of postal parcels between India and Natal.



Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, NOVEMBER 2, 1899.

THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE BOER WAR.

To the question of a newspaper representative as to what Sir Alfred Milner intended doing, the latter was alleged to have replied thus:—"Suppose, you find a heap of gold valued at 500 millions, and 20,000 Boers sitting upon it. What would you do?" We don't think there is any truth in the statement. For, if Sir A. Milner had really felt in that way he would not have so expressed himself. Whether the war is justifiable or not, there is no doubt of it that Mr. Chamberlain had no desire to wage one in a hurry. His object probably was to coerce the Boers into submission by diplomacy; it is quite evident he had no mind to take the initiative. If he had any such intention, he would have begun the war long ago, when the Boers were in a state of unpreparedness. If he really meant it, he would have made better preparations. It is clear that all the necessary preparations for war had not been made when it was declared. When the Boers found British troops on the frontier, they demanded an explanation. But they got no satisfactory explanation in reply. They had either to submit to this annoying condition patiently, which was killing their trade, or to take the initiative. If they had kept quiet it is probable Mr. Chamberlain would have never begun the war. But they chose the other course. They fancied that the British Provinces in South Africa were not in a condition to offer a successful resistance to their attacks. The temptation was irresistible, and they fired the first shot.

To the credit of the British soldiers and British officers, it must be said that though numerically weak, they offered a stubborn resistance, which the Boers had not expected. They thought that, with their numerical superiority, it would be the easiest thing for them to carry everything before them. But British victory disabused them of that notion.

Yet the losses sustained by the British forces were excessive, and this is attributed by many, rightly or wrongly, to the thoughtlessness of Mr. Chamberlain. He had so much faith in Boer patience that he never expected that they would actually throw down the gauntlet. He thought that the Boers knew that if they provoked war, it would ultimately result in their ruin. If Mr. Chamberlain had made better preparations for the contingency of the Boers unsheathing the sword, the British losses would never have been so heavy. This loss of precious lives has, no doubt, made Mr. Chamberlain very miserable, as it has caused universal sorrow throughout the British Empire.

On the other hand, the Boers having met stubborn resistance from a handful of British soldiers, really did fully the dangerous step they had taken. And we now see their Commander-in-Chief and their President taking the field in person. The presence of Kruger in the field shows that the Boers know now desperate their situation is.

In the battle of Ferozeshah, the British forces were led by Lord Gough. The battle was so desperately fought by the Sikhs that the second-in-command of the British army was killed. Thereupon Lord Hardinge, the Governor-General, who was in camp, voluntarily took that vacant place. But this action of his was blamed by subsequent historians. They said that Lord Hardinge, as supreme head of the administration, had acted imprudently in taking the command and risking his life. For, if a stray shot had struck him, the British forces might have got demoralised. In the same manner, if a stray shot kills Kruger, there will be an end of the Boer war. But the action taken by Kruger in taking the field is a proof of their desperate position.

When re-inforcements arrive the Boers will be driven from the British territory, and they will be forced to act on the defensive. If they succeed in prolonging the struggle, they will be forced to yield from hunger. They have one means of prolonging the struggle. The British forces will have to traverse several hundred miles in a difficult country before they can reach the Boer capital. The Boers can check their rapid progress by a sort of guerilla warfare.

The Boers have some advantages. They are said to be good shooters. They are in their own country which can only be entered with difficulty by invaders; and they are fighting for their home and hearth. But then the resources of England are inexhaustible. There is no doubt of it, the Boers will not only have eventually to yield, but will find themselves absolutely at the mercy of the conquerors.

It is then that the difficulty of England will begin. That the conquest of the country will mean immense sacrifices to England there is no doubt. If England does not care for the loss of money, it very much cares for the loss of blood. If the British soldier is a devoted being, the Englishman, on his part, devotedly loves him. The death of a number of British soldiers, however small, is felt very keenly in that country.

Well, after immense sacrifices England will find itself the victor. And then Englishmen will enquire of one another, why they had fought, and what they had gained by it? Before the war had begun, those who were opposed to it, had asked the question: "Why are we going to war at all?" Those who were for war, however, refused to answer that question then; they thought that the question was irrelevant and that the time for settlement of that question would arrive when the war had ended and the enemy had been conquered.

Well, the question what we are fighting for, would be settled when the war has been brought to a close. And then the most ardent advocates of the present war will find that they have derived no substantial advantage by this immense sacrifice of men and money. Of course, when the war is over, it would be easy to annex the country of the Boers. But would it be really easy even then?

The world will disapprove of such an idea; public opinion will go very much against such a step. And if England over-rides public opinion, we very much fear it will not be able to over-ride the opinion of its own children. For, there is no doubt of it, that when the Boers are thoroughly conquered, the Liberals would never

permit the annexation of the country. And if England really annexes the Transvaal, what will it do with its sullen people? It is one thing to govern Asiatics, it is another thing to govern Christians and Whites. If Ireland is a source of trouble to England, much more troublesome will be the Transvaal with its Boer population, with its proverbial love of freedom.

A NEW KIND OF "PUBLIC NUISANCE."

HERE are the facts of an extraordinary case for the consideration of our good Lieutenant-Governor. Our well-known townsman, Pandit Gocool Chandra Goswami, the venerable president of the Gauranga Samaj, has recently gone to Purulia with his family for a change. Those who have come across him know that he is an extremely good and inoffensive man, and a learned and pious Vaishnav. He has rented a Bungalow opposite to that of Mr. W. H. Mackenzie, one of the local Deputy Magistrates. Mr. Mackenzie, we are told, would not allow him to stay there! The following letter dated 25th October last, addressed by Mr. Mackenzie to the Chairman of the Purulia Municipality, who is no other than Mr. H. F. Maguire, the Deputy Commissioner, will speak for itself:

I have the honour to bring to your notice that a large family of natives is now occupying the house opposite to mine and I have to object very strongly to their being permitted to stop there.

There are many reasons for my objecting, but those I at present put forward are that it is not advisable on sanitary grounds to allow natives to occupy houses in the European quarters. Next that the smoke and smell are blown into my Bungalow owing to the wind being N. W. by W.

I believe that this house was originally intended for an office and permission was granted on this understanding only. I beg that you will take early notice of this and pass such orders as will remove the nuisance. I have the honour, etc.—W. H. Mackenzie.

The letter was made over to Babu Anango Mohun Bhattacharjee B. L., Vice-Chairman, for disposal; and he made the following remarks upon it:

I am not aware of any provision in the Municipal Act authorizing me to remove any occupier on the ground stated in the petition. Assuming the grounds to be correct, I do not think it is insensate to allow Indians to stop in European quarters. If smoke and smell interfere with petitioner's comforts he may seek his redress in proper way.

(Sd) A. M. B. Vice-Chairman.

Apparently Mr. Maguire, the Chairman, did not like these remarks; and he made a note to the following effect, on the application of Mr. Mackenzie:

I want to see the former papers. The permission to build the house (that is to say, the Bungalow occupied by Pandit Gocool Chandra) was, I think, given on certain conditions.

Mr. Maguire was evidently very much disappointed to find that no condition whatever was attached as regards the occupation of the Bungalow, as his observations, recorded on the following day, and published below, will show:

I have seen the papers. I am afraid nothing can be done. The people are, however, behaving in a way which amounts to a public nuisance. And a notice may be issued on them to do so.

H. M. 25-10-99.

Our correspondent, who has sent us the above information, thus writes to us:

The compound of the Bungalow in question is separated from the compound of Mr. Mackenzie's Bungalow by a very broad road. On both sides of the road stands a continuous row of large Peepul trees forming a very good avenue. The distance between the two Bungalows is about 100 feet.

The condition mentioned in the letter of Mr. Mackenzie is that no Coolie Depot is to be established in the Bungalow.

I hope you will kindly take steps to bring the facts of the case to the notice of the Government. What we should strongly object to is that Mr. Mackenzie, a Deputy Magistrate, would not see the impropriety of writing to his chief that natives should not be allowed to stop in European quarters; and that his chief, Mr. Maguire, the Deputy Commissioner, instead of rebuking Mr. Mackenzie for this anti-native feeling, should, disregarding the note of the Vice-chairman, an experienced lawyer, pass such frivolous orders as of the 26th. To the credit of the Vice-chairman, he it added, he refused to carry out the illegal order.

We do not quite understand what our correspondent means by the expression, "the condition mentioned in the letter of Mr. Mackenzie is that no coolie depot is established in the bungalow." Does he mean to say that Mr. Mackenzie considers Pandit Gokul Chander and the members of his family to be coolies? There is nothing improbable in the suggestion that they were taken as such by a European. For, the other day, a distinguished Indian gentleman wrote to us to say that when he and another gentleman wanted to go to Penang and Singapore and travel first-class, they were informed by a firm of steamer agents that they must go as coolies, as all "Natives" were classed under coolies! The same gentleman, who is a member of the bar, told us that he had come across such expressions, as "coolie Magistrates," "coolie constables," from educated Europeans, the coolie being a substitute for "Indian" or "Native." One of these Magistrates, who was called a coolie, now holds one of the highest posts to which the people of this country are entitled!

Fancy, a Deputy Magistrate in the position of Mr. Mackenzie should consider it an insult to live in the same quarter with a person like Pandit Gocool Chander Goswami, who is not only a deep Sanskrit scholar but the spiritual head of a large section of the Indian community; and his official superior, an old and experienced District Magistrate, should regard the presence of the Pandit in the neighbourhood of a European residence as a "public nuisance"! It is high time that Sir John Woodburn should assert his authority and insist on his spilt subordinates to accord the same treatment to Indian gentlemen that His Honour himself does when he comes in contact with them. This utter contempt for Indians, as if they were so many loathsome animals, specially on the part of European officials, is doing an amount of harm of which the rulers have no conception. Sir John Woodburn is the pink of courtesy; why should his subordinates behave in a different way? Things have at last come to this pass in Bengal that a highly respectable Hindu gentleman is not to be permitted to occupy a bungalow lying within 100 feet of the house of a very subordinate European official!

THE CHUPRA CASE.

As expected, the judgment of Mr. Pennell, Sessions Judge of Chupra, in the case of constable Narsingh Singh, published in these columns the other day, has caused great sensation. This extraordinary case, perhaps the most sensational of all that we have come across within the last thirty years, can be viewed from three stand-points, namely, the official, the impartial and the popular. From the official point of view, we were utterly in the wrong when we blamed Mr. Bolton for having transferred Mr. Pennell from Chupra to Noakhaly. Mr. Pennell, by his judgment, has made his position in Chupra untenable. Indeed, he has made it impossible for the executive officials in that district to work with him in harmony. The option before Mr. Bolton was either to transfer Mr. Pennell or the officials, (more than half-a-dozen in number) including the venerable Commissioner of the Division, Mr. Bourdillon. The easier course was to transfer the one and not the half-a-dozen. If Mr. Bolton had transferred all the old officials from Chupra and replaced them by new ones, the administration of the district would have been an exceedingly difficult, if not an impossible, task.

Besides Mr. Pennell cannot altogether be exempted from all blame. Possibly the refusal of the Magistrate to send him an explanation offended him. Anyhow he made his judgment rather too racy for a judicial document. And the fact also cannot be concealed that he has, by his judgment, placed the entire administration into a very awkward position. The exposure of the administration that the judgment caused was so thorough and so ugly that it naturally threw the entire body of officials into hysterics when they read it.

In other words, Mr. Pennell has slain more than half-a-dozen British officials including a District Magistrate and a Divisional Commissioner. And he cannot expect to go altogether scot-free for having taken such a bold and unprecedented step.

Before we discuss the case from an impartial point of view, we should point out how Mr. Pennell came to take up the case. He knew nothing about the facts of the outrage; indeed, he was at Mathani when the more important of the trials took place before Deputy Magistrate Moulvie Zakir Hossein, who delivered judgment on the 8th September. On the 11th September Mr. Pennell received by post a petition of appeal and a letter from Babu Jagannath Sahay, explaining the circumstances under which it was so sent. The petition and the letter are published elsewhere as well as an affidavit which accompanied the petition; and they disclose startling facts. In the affidavit serious allegations were made against Moulvie Zakir Hossein and Mr. J. C. Twidell, the officiating Magistrate of the district.

Let it be borne in mind that Babu Jagannath is not a petty Mukhtar but a pleader of many years' standing with a considerable practice, both civil and criminal. When such a person took the unusual course of swearing to an affidavit himself, Mr. Pennell had no alternative but to take serious notice of it. In short, the case was forced upon Mr. Pennell by a leading member of the local bar; and when it was so forced upon him, he was bound to take it up. If he had ignored the affidavit of Babu Jagannath Sahay, the matter might have been brought to the High Court and then perhaps the exposure would have been still more thorough than what it has been.

It should also be remembered that Mr. Pennell is a British Judge of exceptional abilities, for he stood first at the Civil Service Examination. His sense of justice is also very keen, and this is a well-known fact. He had thus no help but to carry on the trial in the usual way; and it is unfair to hold him responsible if some ugly facts transpired, owing to the indiscretion of the executive officials. From a dispassionate and impartial view of the matter therefore, it is not Mr. Pennell, but the District Magistrate and his subordinates and Babu Jagannath Sahay, who are to be blamed for the exposure.

We must also say that from an impartial point of view, Mr. Pennell has proved himself to be a veritable martyr. As a District and Sessions Judge, it can be taken for granted that he has at least the intelligence of an ordinary man. He very well knew, when writing the judgment, that he was sacrificing himself at the altar of duty. He knew that he was pelting stones at a hornet's nest, and creating many enemies for himself amongst his brother officials and countrymen. In short, he was fully aware that he was outcasting himself by his own act. Englishmen have the reputation of being more just than other people in the world. It is men like Mr. Pennell who have secured for the people of England this reputation. Men like Mr. Pennell alone have made the English so great. He has secured a place in the pages of history, though many of his short-sighted contemporaries will, we fear, blame him for his indiscretion in writing such a judgment.

Such is human nature that though the proceedings adopted by the district officials of Chupra have the likely effect of creating indignation in the minds of the people of this country, yet the just manner in which Mr. Pennell has condemned the said proceedings, has not only removed the bad feeling, if any, against the officials, from the minds of the people, but it has endeared the British Government to them. An erring official is common enough but a sacrificing Judge is an uncommon commodity. From this point of view, therefore, Mr. Pennell has done a great service to the Empire and deserves praise and not condemnation at the hands of the Government.

May we, therefore, hope, that the Government of Bengal will reconsider its order with regard to the transfer of Mr. Pennell to Noakhaly, which, we must say, is not only to be deprecated on personal but also on public grounds? Mr. Pennell has never been in the best of health. It is for this reason, we believe, that he was given an appointment in a healthy district like Saran. We hear he is very unwell just now, and Noakhaly is perhaps the worst place in Bengal. His transfer to that penal district may thus prove disastrous to him. If the Government has no option but to send him out of the jurisdiction of Mr. Bourdillon, Commissioner of Patna, it can surely transfer him to an equally healthy place like Chupra. We humbly think it is quite possible for the Government to soothe the wounded susceptibilities of the local authorities without creating a feeling of bitterness and endangering the health of Mr. Pennell.

On public grounds also, the transfer of Mr. Pennell to a penal station should be taken exception to. For, what Sessions Judge, after this, will dare to administer justice impartially when he has to decide a case of official oppression and high-handedness? The true glory of British rule lies in the protection afforded to the weak against the strong in a court of justice. The proud privilege of a British subject is that he is sure to secure impartial justice when he has placed his case before a British Judge. In British territory, under the eye of the law Courts, there is no difference between a prince and a peasant; between an official however high, and a non-official, however low. The severe, and, we regret to say, the unmerited, punishment awarded to Mr. Pennell, will demoralise the whole judiciary and is thus fraught with grave evils. May we appeal to Sir John Woodburn to intervene and throw oil over troubled water?

It is not necessary to bring the French to the front as a factor to account for the naval and other preparations that are being made in England. The Boers are too weak to require such gigantic preparations, and naturally people seek an explanation in the attitude of the continental nations to account for these unaccountable movements. But they are possibly due to the isolated position of England, and the envy and hatred with which that prosperous country is regarded by its neighbours. It is not England alone which is so hated. In the Christian West that is how one nation is regarded by another. A neighbour is necessarily a foe, and a prosperous neighbour is not only a foe, but also an object of dread and, therefore, of hatred. If one Christian nation finds that a neighbouring Christian nation is in difficulty, the former puts itself down as foolish if it fails to take advantage of that opportunity. If the Boers fight stubbornly which they threaten they will do, it will be within their power to prolong the struggle. Fancy, England is found engaged in a fierce struggle in South Africa and in a state of unpreparedness to resist foreign attacks! And then, it is likely that a neighbouring nation will try to take advantage of its weak position. That being the case, whenever a continental nation engages in a war, it first fortifies its frontiers. England is simply doing this. That the French will risk a war with England, with Germany on its back and its internal administration in a state of disorganization, is not likely. To be able to do this, the French must first secure their country from Germany and from internal dissensions. To guard against a German invasion, the French must either come to an understanding with Germany itself, or with Russia. When the Germans attacked France last time, they had to come to an agreement with Russia to protect them from an Austrian invasion. Russia kept the Austrians in check and this arrangement enabled Germany to attack France. As regards its internal affairs, France may any day be plunged into a Civil war.

BUT if the French are not likely to intervene in this quarrel, there are many adventurers to do so. Americans, Germans, Frenchmen, Dutchmen, and above all, the Irish "patriots" have found in this an opportunity of distinguishing themselves. An Irish leader has already proclaimed war to the knife with their "old foe," and collected round him a fanatical band of about two hundred men as also "a drummer of great experience." "In 1879," wrote Sir Bartle Frere, "when I was among the Boers in the Transvaal, I found that the real wirepullers of the committee were foreigners of various nationalities notably some Hollanders, imbued with German Socialist Republican principles, and an Irishman of the name of Aylward." This Irishman, Aylward, is said to be at the bottom of all mischief. He was a lawyer, a convict, an author and subsequently a General in the Boer army. It is from him that Kruger has learnt his hatred of the English. "I found him," said Sir Bartle Frere, "always connected with any opposition to the English Government. He knew all the leaders of the simple-minded, but very suspicious, Boers, and had gained their ear, so that he had no difficulty in persuading them to reject any good advice I offered them, 'wait a bit' being always the most acceptable suggestion you can offer to a Boer." He composed and wrote the Boer "Solemn Oath and Covenant" became Military Secretary to General Joubert, and tried to stop the surrender of Sir George Colley's body after Majuba. The Irish are treated by the English on equal terms; how is it that the latter are yet so bitter? But let that go. Then there is no doubt that the Boers will get moral sympathy not only from foreigners but also from a good many Englishmen. A small band of farmers struggling manfully for their independence against a giant foe is a spectacle which goes straight to the hearts of men—particularly of Englishmen—especially when the fate of these farmers is a foregone conclusion.

MR. JUDGE PENNELL severely rates Maulvi Zakir Hossein, in his memorable judgment in the Sarun case, but what the latter was led to do, most Deputy Magistrates, whether Mussalman or Hindu, would have done. If the Government takes any notice of this case we fear the Maulvi will have to suffer first. Fortunately for him, he has, we hear, just retired from the service. We must say, however, that he had no help in the matter. There are strong Magistrates, both among Hindus and Mussalmans, but we think there is scarcely any Deputy, be he a Hindu or a Mussalman, who can go against the head of the district. We think we were wrong in blaming Mr. Bolton for transferring Mr. Pennell; for, what else could he do when the whole army of executive officers, headed by the venerable Commissioner of the Division, were up against the Judge? We shall shortly take up the subject again.

THE Kolahpore poisoning case has given birth to another, equally curious. A petition was submitted to the Magistrate, who is trying this case, by two witnesses and one of the accused, the substance of which is as follows:

On the previous day they were taken to Mr. Berthon's bungalow by the Kotwal and a clerk, accompanied by the correspondent of the Times of India, and that they were required to state what they were going to say in the Court during the trial of the case. Mr. Berthon was not present, and their state-

ments were taken down by the correspondent of the Times of India, who has been here since the last adjournment, a clerk translating for him. They were detained there till evening, and the accused Babu was handed two rupees and the witnesses one rupee each, which they were urged to accept against their wish. The witness Tajoo added that as he was there so long something was given him to eat, for which one anna and nine pies was deducted from the rupee that was given him. The petitioners returned all the money to the Court with their petition, and prayed that the Court would direct an inquiry to be made so that they might receive redress for their unlawful detentions, etc. The Court inquired particularly as to the identity of the gentleman who took down their statements, and after making other preliminary inquiries ordered the petitioners to present themselves in Court the next day.

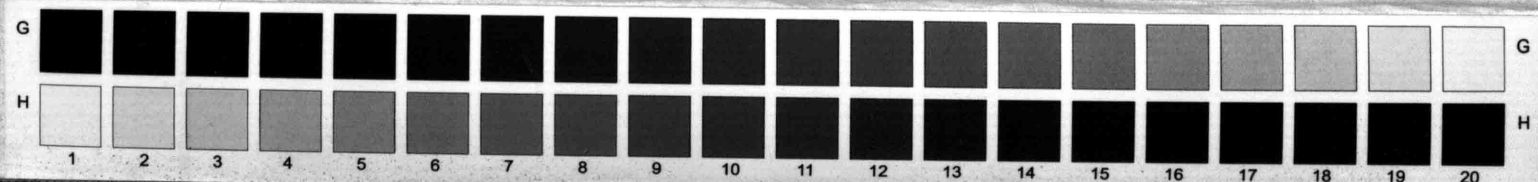
But what has the correspondent of the Times of India to do with witnesses and the accused?

WE beg to invite the prompt attention of the Government to the mode of plague examination at Howrah which has become a source of much trouble and annoyance to passengers travelling in third and intermediate classes, especially when travelling with ladies. First and second-class passengers are exempted from plague examination at the gate; but Indian ladies, even of high rank, who cannot travel in mixed company and have thus no other alternative but to resort to female or reserved compartments in intermediate and third classes, are made to stand and undergo an examination before crowds of strangers. Needless to say that the feeling of the respectable classes of Hindus and Mahomedans is greatly wounded by this sort of treatment accorded to their ladies. A notice, posted at the gate of the Howrah station, announces the fact that some Marwaries and their ladies were prosecuted and fined for trying to avoid the plague examination by buying two sets of tickets, namely, second class and intermediate class tickets. They bought second-class tickets only to avoid plague examination at the gate, while they actually meant to travel intermediate. This was considered to be fraud on the part of the Marwaries, and they were prosecuted and fined. It seems, it never occurred to their prosecutors that they incurred this additional expense not for any nefarious purpose but only to escape from the indignity of their ladies being subjected to an examination in an open place. Two or three similar notices, we are told, have also been posted at the plague station gate. They prove conclusively that the present mode of examination is anything but satisfactory, and that people would resort to underhand means to avoid the disgrace. The Amrita Bazar Patrika thus relates an incident which happened recently at the Howrah Station, showing how zealously do plague officials, vested with little brief authority, guard over it, causing unnecessary harassment, trouble and annoyance to inoffensive, gentle and law-abiding people:

A well-known gentleman of Calcutta was going up-country with his family. He had reserved a third-class compartment for their accommodation. Now, under the present arrangement, third and intermediate passengers are required to enter the Howrah Railway platform by a particular gate when the plague officer is present there. The gentleman in question entered the Railway platform through the intermediate class gate with the permission of the Railway officials, when the plague officer was not present there. Well, as soon as the plague official came to know of it he approached the gentleman and demanded to know in an imperious tone, how he dared to act in that way. The gentleman did his utmost to appease the wrath of the plague official. He said he had not the least intention to defy his authority; and if he had done anything wrong, he should be excused inasmuch as he had acted under the notion that the railway officials were masters of the station. "Nothing of the kind; as far as plague matters are concerned I am supreme here," said the plague official. Then he went away saying that he would not examine the party but prosecute them for evading plague examination. Meanwhile, the lady doctor of the station came to examine the reserved compartment in which the lady companions of the gentleman were seated and she dragged away two of them to the examination-room for further examination, as, in her opinion, they had got fever. Amidst these difficulties the gentleman consulted the railway officials, and at last converted his compartment into an intermediate one by paying excess fare, though he had to travel in the same third class compartment as no intermediate compartment was just then available. The gentleman was relieved to find that he was no further molested by the plague officials.

We are profoundly thankful to the Lieutenant-Governor for the sympathetic attitude he has all along shown in connection with the enforcement of plague rules. He has lately removed a very serious inconvenience of the passengers by abolishing plague examination at such intermediate stations as Panduah, Bagool, etc. His Honour will remove another serious inconvenience, without incurring, in the least, the efficacy of the plague examination, by allowing Indian ladies, travelling in intermediate classes and in reserved compartments, to be examined in their respective compartments, instead of being examined at the public gate.

THE Hindu legislators ordained that a Hindu should, at the funeral ceremony of his parent or other near relation, let loose a male calf, after branding it with a peculiar mark. Such calves thereafter become public property, and grow, in a short time, into very strong animals. Living a perfectly natural life, these calves, when full-grown, become exceedingly powerful and sometimes ferocious animals. If they take to evil ways, that is to say, attack men, they are caught and shorn of their horns. When they are too many in a village they fight, and the weaker ones are either killed or driven to pastures new. These creatures are taken care by the people of this country, as agriculture is the chief source of wealth to the people. For, in tilling the land of this country, bullocks are better adapted than horses; and the preservation of the breed is, therefore, essential for the existence of the people. When the bull is strong, its offspring as a rule, are bound to be healthy and strong; but some Magistrates foolishly entered upon a crusade against them. They caught the bulls, castrated them and then employed them in dragging Municipal carts. Seeing this butchers followed suit and began to import them to Calcutta for their flesh. We remember a case which occurred at Baraset, we believe. The butchers had caught 27 bulls in the interior, and were taking them to Calcutta. An Inspector of Police, who came to see this, was very much grieved at the loss that the massacre of the bulls would mean to the



country. He prosecuted the butchers and secured their conviction; and the bulls were let loose. But the bad example set by some ignorant Magistrates fifty years ago, is yet being followed. The result is, a strong and healthy bull has actually become a scarcity in the country. The matter is more important than would seem on the surface of it. Will the Government be pleased to take steps for the protection of these useful animals? These animals, known as Brahmini bulls, are so useful to an agricultural country that they deserve to be protected, even by a special law, if necessary.

EUROPEANS take life rather seriously. Fancy how they went mad over a Jew Captain in the French army by name Dreyfus. It was alleged that he had committed an act of treachery; and he was punished for it by his country. Outsiders, however, said that he was not guilty. But what business had outsiders to mix in the affair? And why did they say that Dreyfus was innocent? That was the subject matter of dispute. It raged so high that at last it became impossible to read a single page of any European or American paper, without coming across Dreyfus every now and then. Suppose it is admitted that Dreyfus was really innocent and had been wrongly punished. What was that to John Smith of Birmingham or Oliver Tweed of Ontario? Why should a lady residing on the shores of the Pacific Ocean, in a town called Ohio, go into hysterics when she heard that Dreyfus had been found guilty? On recovering from her swoon she continued to moan: "Ah Dreyfus, poor Dreyfus! And she had not even seen him! Well, if a lady was rolling on the ground in the anguish of her soul in Ohio, a similar scene was being enacted in South America by another lady. The fact is, the European mind is never free from a tinge of insanity. The Hindu is the true philosopher. He has nothing in this world; he is a beggar, a slave, a human sheep. But he cares not. By the bye, if the Westerns had sought God as they had followed the fortunes of this Dreyfus, they might have secured salvation.

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, OCT. 13.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

CHAMBERLAIN prevails—and the Dogs of War are let loose! Peace was held by a rope of twenty strand strength, but for the last two months Mr. Chamberlain has, one by one, severed nineteen of the strands, and now President Kruger has cut the twentieth. He has issued an Ultimatum calling for the prompt withdrawal of our troops from the Transvaal frontier; he removal of the re-inforcements recently sent out within a reasonable time, and for a pledge that the troops now on the way shall not be landed; further declaring that unless an affirmative reply be received in 48 hours, the action of Her Majesty's Government will be treated as a declaration of war. Of course, no such reply was given, and to-day the Boer troops have crossed the frontier into Natal. The Government having failed to secure its demands by diplomacy, all hope of peace has disappeared, and after two or three months of ill-tempered and futile negotiations, in which all through there was the clear and manifest purpose on the part of the Queen's Government to pick a quarrel and annex the Transvaal once for all, we find ourselves launched upon a bitter race war, the peculiar circumstances of which make it practically a civil war, the end of which none can see, and no man ventures to predict. The magnitude of its possibilities are indicated by the vast preparations which are being made for the invasion of the Transvaal. No greater army has ever left British shores, in all previous British history. The utmost the two Republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State can put in the field, is 30,000 troops, not trained soldiers, and compared to their invaders, defectively armed and equipped, but forming the manhood of a race passionately attached to liberty and independence, smarting under a sense of bitter injustice, fighting for home and country.

The general public are somewhat bewildered by the enormous force which the Government evidently think necessary to throw into the campaign. Seventy thousand perfectly equipped troops, with a railway and seaports for their base of supply, are thought none too little for the conquest of two tiny States, cut off from all supplies from without, who by enlisting every able-bodied male from 16 to 60 years of age, cannot put half that number into the field.

But the War Office knows what is before them, and the generals are anxious enough about the result of the campaign even with such overwhelming superiority as this. The whole conditions of modern warfare have been completely turned upside down, since two white armies met each other in the field. The extraordinary development of modern weapons of warfare, the invention of quick-firing artillery and magazine rifles, have given the balance of power to the army of defence, to an extent almost beyond belief. Modern artillery is five times more effective than it was in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The modern rifle has made cavalry charges impossible; the best authorities declare that a battalion of 800 rifles, with a single volley fired at a range of 330 yards, would unhorse 424 troopers, and if a battalion were to open fire at 870 yards, and continue firing, at a distance of 110 yards, 2656 men would have been put out of action, equal to several battalions of cavalry, attacking one after the other.

According to the veta of the expert Prussian General Rohne, 100 sharpshooters will put a battery of modern artillery out of action, firing from a distance of 1500 yards, in 20 minutes. The best military statisticians are agreed that every attacking body of infantry, if it is not to be inferior to the defenders, must have at least 600 men to every hundred of the defenders, at 40 yards' distance from their entrenchments. The great Russian military critic Bloch, whose great work on modern armaments impelled the Czar to the Hague Conference, declares that in modern warfare "it is impossible to dream of taking an entrenched position."

It is the knowledge of all this at the British War Office, that has resulted in the despatch of 70,000 trained troops to face the tiny army of the two little Republics, knowing right well

that there is no force in the world more capable of a harassing and thoroughly efficient defence than these Boer soldiers, fighting desperately with modern weapons for their hearths and national life.

The ignorant Jingo who raves "to avenge Majuba Hill" forget that the victors of that melancholy little battle are the men who lead the Boers to-day. It was a pitched battle between a thousand British troops and 450 Boers. The forces never got to close quarters, or would have been a different story altogether. But by the superior tactics and magnificent marksmanship of the Boers, the British were beaten out of their positions with the loss of their General, 92 killed, 134 wounded, and fifty-nine prisoners. The Boers only lost one man killed, and five wounded. Such a blunder as this, of course, not likely to happen again; but in such a war as Chamberlain's folly and diplomatic incapacity has driven us into, there is no glory to be got, for we shall never see a pitched battle, and the Boers will be only driven from one fortified camp to another, by overwhelming odds with heavy loss of life to the attacking army, and a minimum loss of life to the Boers. Eventually they will be driven back upon Pretoria, and will most likely then submit to the inevitable without risking a pitched battle. They will lose their independence, but nothing else; they will go back to their farms, leaving not many dead in the battlefield. No indemnity can be raised when the whole country invaded has been annexed, and it will be impossible to refuse full rights of citizenship to any white men in a British Colony.

But what a price we shall have to pay for the victory! The cost in money of the campaign itself will be at least 15 or 20 millions sterling, for we have spent 6 millions already and not a blow struck yet. We shall have to add 20,000 more men permanently to the British army, to garrison this "new Ireland," six thousand miles away, one half of whose inhabitants will have a race hatred it will take three generations to kill out. We shall have deepened and strengthened the jealousy of European Powers, some of whom have axes to grind for which we are now turning the grindstone. We shall lose some thousands of valuable lives, and put thousands of British homes into mourning. And for what? To establish the "paramountcy" of an Empire of 400 millions of people, over two insignificant Republics whose joint white population is 200 thousand!

There is nothing left for objectors but to submit and make the best they can of a very black job. The sooner the Boers are conquered now the better, and the more overwhelming the forces we bring into the field, the less bloodshed there will be. It is not easy to champion the Boer cause. Kruger has been foolishly obstinate, and has played all along into Chamberlain's unscrupulous hands. The Boers are ignorant and arrogant, are living in a fool's paradise with regard to the strength and determination of Britain, and will presently have a very rude awakening. All the same, they have right on their side, and we are bound to come out of the affair more or less discredited.

The indictment against the Government is, that all along they have meant to annex. If they could have done it without war, they would naturally have preferred to do so, and but for the personal ambitions of two men, Rhodes and Chamberlain, perhaps the cleverest and most unscrupulous politicians within the British Empire, they would have done so, gradually, by the absorption into the electorate of the Transvaal Republic of all the Outlanders—already a majority of the population. Kruger and his immediate surroundings were the only hindrance. He is 76 and cannot much longer be a factor in the situation. Kruger dead or on the shelf, Piet Joubert would become President. He is a Liberal, has had a high education, knows and understands European politics, and would have been quite acceptable to the bulk of the new Outlander electorate. He opposed Kruger at the last election for Presidentship, and had he been successful this war would never have happened. He was elected Vice-president the next day. But a Republic with Piet Joubert as President, working with a British majority in his Parliament, was not a prospect at all grateful to Chamberlain, Rhodes and the other Imperialist gang. A British Republic in South Africa would speedily have absorbed Natal, Rhodesia and the Cape Colony, and South Africa, like the United States, would have declared her independence of the mother country, but without a word of motherly remonstrance. Britannia would have been delighted to see her fine prosperous daughter set up business on her own account. All that has passed away. It may come again sooner than Chamberlain thinks.

Annexation is certain now, nothing else is possible or practicable. The mess is complete. The Opposition in this country (a powerful minority only, for many Liberals who ought to know better have been captured by the Government) can only wait patiently the development of the campaign, and try to bring the nation, now suffering from temporary lunacy, to its right mind when matters have to be settled up at the end.

The war fever is raging everywhere. Meetings called to plead for a peaceful solution of the dispute are broken up by noisy and intoxicated mobs, who could not find the Transvaal in a school atlas. At all the music halls, "Rule Britannia" is sung with the audience upstanding, roaring the chorus, and even the Lord Mayor of London, that gorgeous functionary who looms so large on the imagination of the foreigner distinguished himself by bellowing for war to a Jingo crowd from the balcony of the Mansion House. Even the Liberal party is honeycombed more or less with the war fever. The leaders in Parliament fall back upon the traditional policy of "supporting the Government in a national crisis," and reserving hostile criticism till the crisis is past. There are, however, a few prophets in the land who refuse to bow the knee to Baal. John Morley, Leonard Courtney, Sir William Harcourt, W. T. Stead, H. Labouchere, the *Manchester Guardian*, the *London Chronicle* are all faithful to the principle of peaceful arbitration, and although their voice is drowned in the general clamour, which is exciting the derision and contempt of the civilized world, it will be heard in the long run.

It is, indeed, a melancholy and depressing time for progressive Liberal politicians everywhere. If ever there was a dispute that might reasonably have been dealt with by arbitration this is the one. But the stubborn determination of Chamberlain to hold by that dubious word "sovereignty" and to insist upon it that the

Transvaal Republic was not an independent State has prevented its adoption. At any time during the controversy, Kruger would willingly have submitted the dispute to the final arbitration of any distinguished Dutch or American jurist or even to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; and even during the strain of the last month the despatch of Mr. Cotton Balfour, the Duke of Devonshire, or Lord Balfour of Burleigh—anybody but Chamberlain—to the Cape, with plenipotentiary powers for settlement, would have been crowned with success. But that would have meant a practical censure of Chamberlain's rotten diplomacy, and a Cabinet crisis. Lord Salisbury and all his colleagues have chosen instead to be dragged at the tail of Chamberlain's chariot, and the result is a long, bitter and bloody contest, with a brave and obstinate people, the end of which no man can foresee.

One thing at any rate is clear. The glory or the shame of it all will be Chamberlain's. He will come out of it either the God of the Jingo, or the most disgraced and discredited minister of the nineteenth century. He is a bold man, who loves such risky stakes. He is diabolically clever, but he has before him as touchy a job as even his heart can wish.

Pitiful tales come from Natal and the Cape, of the misery of the 40 or 50,000 English people, many of them, women and children, who are leaving the Transvaal, and a Mansion House fund has been started on their behalf yesterday, to which £25,000 was immediately subscribed. Of all these unhappy refugees, perhaps the Indians are in the worst plight. Most of them, I believe, are remaining at Johannesburg and Pretoria, preferring the Scylla of the Transvaal to the Charybdis of Natal. They are probably right. Quiet, harmless, unobtrusive, industrious folk, beaten from pillar to post, they may as well stop where they are and stand by their little property.

TEMPERANCE MEETINGS.

I HAVE just returned from a visit to Yorkshire with my friend, Bepin Chandra Pal, for whom I had arranged a series of meetings in the great manufacturing district, of which Sheffield was the centre. We held altogether seven meetings all of which were very largely attended, on Sunday and Monday last. On Sunday we divided our forces, Bepin Chandra Pal speaking at the Unitarian Churches at Rotherham in the morning, and at Sheffield in the evening. I gave three addresses in the course of the day in other churches in Sheffield. On Monday we held a conference in the Cutlers' Hall, with the Lord Mayor of Sheffield in the chair; afterwards his lordship gave a dinner party in our honour to which a number of distinguished citizens, were invited, and in the evening a large public meeting was held with Mr. Henry J. Wilson, M. P., presiding. The object of all these meetings was threefold. To interest the people who came to them, in the condition of India—to explain the claims of the National Congress, and to enforce the importance of the Anglo-Indian Temperance Association. Nearly 3000 different persons were present at these meetings and were deeply interested in Bepin Chandra Pal's able exposition of his subject, giving him a most enthusiastic reception. Similar meetings were held by Mr. Pal and myself last week at Bradford (my old constituency); and Mr. Pal is to visit Birmingham next week for a similar series of meetings. The Anglo-Indian Temperance Association intend to continue this useful work throughout the winter, using Mr. Pal as their chief speaker. Meetings have already been arranged for Glasgow and the neighbourhood, where Mr. Pal has already been, and from which he has received many urgent requests to come again.

INDIAN SOLDIERS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Some surprise has been naturally felt that while offers of soldiers are accepted from Canada, Australia and New Zealand, no contingent, however small, of our loyal and gallant Indian army, is to be allowed to take part in the campaign. This is in consequence of the violent colour prejudice which exists equally in the Transvaal and in our own colony of Natal, and it is feared that the unjust contempt which characterises the treatment of Indian civilians in South Africa, might find some reflex in the reception of Indian troops. I hear that very strong protests have been made not only by the officers of the Indian Staff Corps but by Rajas and Maharajas. A very fair statement of the feelings of the Indian Princes on the matter is given in an "interview" with the Maharaja of Kapurthala in this week's *Sketch*, from which I cut the following paragraph:

"Now, your Highness, supposing we have to fight Mr. Kruger, do you think it is desirable to send out some of our Indian regiments?" He paused a few moments before replying.

"Well, I, of course, see the difficulty of employing Indians so long as the unfortunate race-feeling exists, as it undoubtedly does; and therefore it would not be desirable in this particular juncture to utilise the splendid forces which Her Majesty has at her command. But this day is approaching when the world will recognise that we Indians are not 'blacks' in the sense of humanity, and that our soldiers, whose courage and discipline have never been questioned, are incapable of committing acts of atrocity such as have shocked civilization in more than one European country within recent years. And, once this fact is recognised, we shall, no doubt, be permitted to offer our lives as sacrifices for our Empire all over the world, just as are accepted the services of men living in the Colonies. That will be a proud day for India, for we shall feel that India is no longer a dependency, but a portion of the Empire with interests one and the same. It is a pity that the moment has not now arrived, for I am sure a strong Indian contingent would greatly help towards a speedy conclusion of the war, if war we are to have. You see, our Pathans and Gurkhas are born mountaineers, able to endure any amount of deprivation and fatigue, and they are, as marksmen, quite the equals of the Boers. Then you would have the steady effect of a strong brigade of Sikhs whose only fault is that they never can be got to understand the sense of the order 'Retire' when given on the field of battle. Again, I believe, our Indian cavalry, light men on light, wiry horses—able to live, both men and horses, on short rations—would be the very thing for following up the enemy, once the infantry had got them on the run. But why should I go into this question at all? I tell you plainly my own opinion is that we shall have no war. It appears to me unlikely that no *modus vivendi* should be diplomatically possible at the end of this nineteenth century in a dispute of so trivial a nature. I am quite sure the Queen is on the side of peace, and Lord Salisbury, her most loyal Minister, will strive to carry out Her Majesty's wishes.

It is very interesting, by the way, to see how the Maharaja of Kapurthala puts his finger on the weak spot of this very unhappy business

when he says, "It appears to me unlikely that no *modus vivendi* should be diplomatically possible at the end of the nineteenth century in a dispute of so trivial a nature."

It is indeed lamentable that on the outbreak of a war in which all our colonial forces are encouraged to participate, so important a branch of the Imperial forces as the Indian native army should be forbidden to participate on account of their colour prejudice which has been so wickedly fostered in Natal, unchecked and unrebuked by Mr. Chamberlain. This is, indeed, one of the most deplorable faults of the ill-fated influence which has dominated the policy of our Colonial office for the last four years, as the "Manchester Guardian" puts it in to-day's issue:—"To remedy the grievances of impetuous and impatient Outlanders at Johannesburg we are to offend the whole of our Afrikaner fellow-subjects and run the risk of seriously wounding the pride of the hundred and forty odd thousand brave fellows who compose the native portion of our Indian army! Could anything be more unfortunate?"

MONEY-VOTE FOR THE WAR.

Parliament meets on Tuesday to vote ten millions or so for the cost of the war, and by its vote, at the same time to approve the policy which has developed the necessity. I have no hope that the Front Opposition Bench will vote against it. They will content themselves with a flabby resolution deploring the inefficient diplomacy of the Government, but will vote the money all the same. My hope is that John Morley and those who think with him will go into the lobby against the money vote. If they have the courage of their convictions, however small their following, with them will rest the future of the Liberal party in this country. It is, in my opinion, the only way in which direct censure of a war is possible under our Parliamentary system. It was the course taken by Bright and Cobden over the Crimean War; Bright lost his seat for Manchester and his party was repudiated by the constituencies. But time brought revenge and the discredited Bright and Cobden faction have proved the most potent factor in that Liberalism which has moulded the Victorian era. To-day, no man outside a lunatic asylum would attempt to justify the colossal blunder of the Crimean war, with its heritage of bad blood with Russia, which still bears fruit in those armaments, which to-day consume the vitals of Indian finance. I believed the men who, next week, will have the courage to refuse the supplies for a more wicked and stupid war even than the Crimean, will live to earn the gratitude of a repentant public.

The Indian people may be well content that they are the only portion of the Empire excluded from co-operation in such an iniquitous ally as this violent annexation of two free and independent States.

THE RANGOON OUTRAGE.

By the way, some comments which I made in my last letter on the Rangoon outrage, were, to some extent, inspired by the report which has been telegraphed here that the woman who was the subject of the outrage had died from her injuries. This report has, I am glad to say, been contradicted. It leaves, however, the crime committed sufficiently disgraceful to obviate all desire on my part to modify in any way what I wrote, which is only an expression of the opinion of every decent-minded man.

SIR HENRY STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, the new Governor of Bombay, is the second son of the Earl of Iddesleigh (better known as Sir Stafford Northcote), and has represented Exeter in Parliament since 1880. The posts he has held include a clerkship in the Foreign Office and Private Secretariats to Lord Salisbury (Constantinople Embassy) and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He has also filled the offices of Financial Secretary to the War Office, Surveyor-General of Ordnance, and Charity Commissioner, but has done nothing to bring his name into very great public prominence. This may be regarded by some as an additional proof of his personal fitness for the position he is to occupy, and it is only to be hoped that when he in his turn resigns the Governorship of Bombay his reputation as an able administrator will stand as high and his popularity be as widespread and well deserved as that of Lord Sandhurst.

The drain on the Government balances due to the famine relief expenditure in British India and to the loans to Native States has compelled the Government of India to suspend telegraphic transfers and to restrict the Secretary of State's drawings of Council Bills. On the other hand, Act 11 of 1898, which permits the Secretary of State to receive gold in London against an equivalent amount of silver issued from the currency reserve in India, has come into operation for the first time during the last few days, the Secretary of State having in this way received £100,000. Moreover the amount of gold presented last week at the Indian treasuries, viz., £167,000, was the largest sum yet tendered in any one week, and if we take the gold now held in India and in London we have a total sum of £3,130,000. This is an increase of over half-a-million sterling in the stock accumulated since the Bill for making gold legal tender was passed in the middle of last month, when the total amount held was only £2,620,000.

A RESOLUTION has been published in the N. W. P. Gazette, dealing with the working of the income-tax in those Provinces during the year 1898-99. The collections are lower than they have been since 1894-95. The total contribution of the Province during the year came to just under twenty-four lakhs. Excluding receipts from officials, salaries or incomes from Government securities, the incidence of the tax per thousand of the population was Rs. 43, which was the same as in 1897-98. The special charges connected with the working of the Act amounted to Rs. 12,600. These consist mostly of payments of refunds, and these declined from Rs. 15,547 to Rs. 10,966. The number of objections preferred against the initial assessments were 19,304, against 25,590 in the previous year, and objectors were not so successful, as in the previous year, in sustaining their objections. Sixty arrests were made, but with this exception the different classes of coercive processes for realization of the tax show a general decrease. The number of cases in which moveable property was attached fell from 375 to 290, and the number of cases in which such property was sold declined from 113 to 85, and despite the increase in the number of persons arrested, it was necessary to send to prison only four persons, as against five in 1897-98.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

LEVEES.—Two Levees will be held at Government House, Calcutta, next cold weather, one on the 22nd December, and the other on the 4th January. Their Excellencies will hold a Drawing-Room at Calcutta on the December 27th.

THE HOME SECRETARY.—Mr. Fraser, Home Secretary, left Simla on Sunday, and visits Agra, Bombay, Poona, Lucknow, Benares, arriving at Nagpur about the 23rd, when he takes over charge of the Officiating Chief Commissionerships of the Central Provinces.

DARJEELING WEATHER.—Heavy rain which was falling at Darjeeling, has ceased and the clouds have cleared off the mountains, showing snow on Sundukphoo and Tonglu, also as low as Jongli below Kinchinjunga, which is most unusual at this time of the year.

THE NIZAM'S ARRIVAL.—H. H. the Nizam arrives in Calcutta in State on the 23rd December, and will remain here as Lord Curzon's guest till probably 1st January. H. E. the Viceroy has particularly requested that Sir Vikar-ul-Oomrah should accompany His Highness.

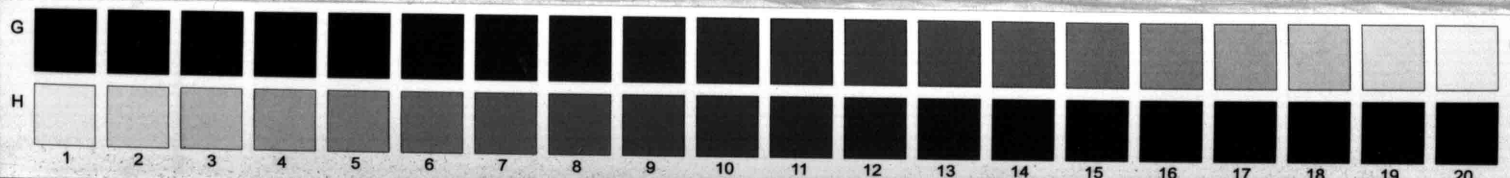
"HITABADI" DEFAMATION CASE.—The defamation case, instituted against the Editor of the *Hitabadi* having been called on, the complainant, Babu Mati Lal Ghose, editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, was represented by Babu Kali Churn Palit and Debendra Nath Dass, while Babu Ramesswar Mondol represented the accused, Babu Kali Prasanna Kabyabasarad. On the application of the defence, consented to by the prosecution, his Worship adjourned the case till the 14th instant.

POSTAL.—Consequent on the retirement of Maulvi Habibur Rahman Ahmed, Postmaster, Lucknow, the following appointments are made, with effect from the 4th July: Mr. C. E. Charde, Postmaster, Agra, to be Postmaster, Lucknow. Mr. W. C. Hurst, Postmaster, Meerut, to be Postmaster, Agra, and Mr. W. S. McLeavy to be Postmaster, Meerut. Mr. C. Rose, Superintendent of Post Offices, 4th grade, is granted privilege leave for three months, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.—Babu Dwarka Nath Sen, B. A., is appointed to act as Superintendent of Post Offices, 4th grade, during the absence of Babu Surya Kanta Mitra who is granted leave on medical certificate for one month, with effect from the 21st September.—Consequent on the retirement from service of Lala Mulraj, Superintendent of Post Offices, 3rd grade, Munshi Muhammad Kasim, Superintendent of Post Offices, 4th grade, is promoted to the 3rd grade with effect from the 1st August.

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed:—Christopher Rawson, consulting and analytical chemist, of Bradford—the improvement of indigo manufacture. Paloor Sankaranaryana, M. A., Tutor to the Raja of Pithapuram, of Pithapuram, Godavari District, Madras—improvements in spring candle stand. William Martin, a retired indigo planter, residing at Agra, North-West Provinces—a screw lever and hydraulic power baling press, suitable for India. Alfred Stevens, shipwright, and William Stephen Penny, boat builder, both of St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, England—improvements in or relating to brakes for motor cars and other vehicles; and applicable also to gun carriages. Fateh Mahomed Imamsahib, carpet maker, residing at Old Downey-road, Byculla, Bombay—improvements in fibre-extracting machines. John Donnelly, engineer, of 309, Bury new road, Higher Broughton, Manchester—improved appliances or means for controlling the lowering of railway wagon doors, and to assist in raising or closing the same. Daniel Munson Seton, lawyer, of 24, Montgomery-street, San Francisco—improvements in means for feeding at will threads of different colours to the wet thread carrier in looms.

ALLEGED OFFICIAL HIGH-HANDEDNESS.—Says the *Behar Herald*:—"The cry is still they come. Almost every mail brings us news of official high-handedness. It is really most provoking to reflect on the most inhuman treatment often meted out by the underlings in government offices to the inoffensive people of this country, against which birth, rank and respectability seldom afford any security. Here is an instance to the point:—The case of Empress vs. Ramnarayan and others was instituted at the instance of a clerk in the Executive Engineer's office, Buxar, under Sec. 160 I. P. C. in the latter part of September last and naturally enough the clerk was cited as witness. The 3rd current was fixed for hearing. It is alleged that summonses were not served on the accused and the witness, who therefore were not present at the court on the 3rd. On the 8th October, the poor clerk was arrested and dragged to the local thana by virtue of a warrant for his non-appearance on the 3rd. He protested against this illegal procedure and was eventually released on bail of Rs. 50; we are told that subsequently some other witnesses were arrested for the same offence. They all urged that as no summonses were served on them they could not be present. We do not care to venture an opinion, but it is by no means unlikely that summonses were not served; perhaps because there was a mistake somewhere or some one did so wilfully. The fact remains that the witnesses repeatedly declared that no summonses were served on them. We ask, was the trying Magistrate right to issue warrant for arrest without fully satisfying himself that summonses were actually served and that there was no mistake in the office? Summonses might have been issued, and yet not served. Did the Magistrate satisfy himself on this point? And pray, who is to answer for all the harassment and insult to the men who were arrested by the Police and dragged to the thana as felons."

NEWS received from Mr. Phelps, who with Mr. Church, has gone to shoot in the Tian Shan in quest of that almost fabulous animal, the great Central Asian stag, states that the travellers arrived at Yarkand on the 12th August. They had been very lucky in the weather, which was cloudy and cool the whole way from Kilian. After staying a day or two at Yarkand they were to start for Ili via Maral-bashi, Aksu and Mozart, and once over the Mozart Pass, about twenty-two marches from Yarkand, hoped to get some news of their game and to reach the ground in time for the "roaring."



THE VICEROY AT DELHI.

IN reply to an address of the Delhi Municipality, His Excellency the Viceroy said: Mr. President and members of the Municipal Committee of Delhi:—I have not since my arrival in this country received a more model address. My experience of Addresses in India although as yet inconsiderable, has taught me that they are sometimes—and I am far from saying improperly made, the vehicle of a skilfully-designed petition or appeal, and that occasionally even under the delicate disguise of a compliment, may be detected a remote echo of complaint. I am happy to observe in your Address that you ask me for nothing; that you complain of nothing; but that, on the contrary you record for the most part a condition of affairs, which testifies to the good management in the past; which reflects the existing contentment and is of good omen for the future. The observations that you have made upon the work, which the Delhi Municipal Committee has long been engaged in carrying out for the benefit of the city, appear to indicate a wise and correct realization of the main functions for which the Municipality exists. You are concerned with the life, health, dwellings, and means of subsistence of your fellow-citizens, and this being so, the main efforts should undoubtedly be directed towards making the conditions of life in this great city sanitary, decent and good. The example that such ambitions are not always susceptible of swift or easy fulfilment is evident from your own case, since I find that, as long ago as 1881, when your predecessors welcomed Lord Ripon to Delhi, they descanted in the Address of welcome upon those very works, city drainage and water-supply—which you have also brought under my notice as being still in course of execution, but which, must I imagine be now in majority cases approaching the later stages of fulfilment. The advantage may even necessity of local application of the latest resources of science in respect of sanitation and drinking supply to large masses of people is now becoming universally recognised and is one of the greatest triumphs of civilization over prejudice and ignorance. It is 12 years since I was last present as a private tourist in Delhi and both from what I have heard and read and from what you have just told me I shall expect to find in the city signs of great and remarkable development. Much of the expansion you owe to that central position which has always made Delhi the Capital city now of commerce as once of power; more still to engineering policy, that has converted it into a pivot of so many radiating lines of railroad and perhaps, most of all to judicious Municipal finance, that has understood not merely when to tax but where to spare, and that has thereby accelerated the development of Delhi into a great emporium and distributing centre of Indian trade. There are few spectacles more interesting to the traveller, who is also somewhat of a student, than that of cities which, in modern times and under novel conditions, have recovered or reinvigorated the fame of an illustrious past. In Italy, Rome, in Persia, Isfahan, in Syria, Damascus, in Japan, Kioto—all of them the former Capitals of the Empire—have caught the spirit of the age and, instead of sighing over political or Imperial supremacy that has vanished, are found eagerly pushing to the front in the modern march of industry and invention. In Delhi, we may see signs of similar vitality. It has already carried you far, and will, I believe and trust, carry you farther still. It has been a source of sincere grief to me to learn that the neighbouring districts of this province are suffering from the affliction which has darkened our autumn prospects in so many parts of Northern and Central India. If my visit to your City is of shorter duration than I should on personal grounds have preferred to make it, you will perhaps, pardon the brevity of my stay on the grounds that I am anxious to visit the centres of scarcity myself and to see with my own eyes how the poor people are faring, and what steps are being taken by our highly-trained and gallant district officers to meet the storm that has so swiftly and cruelly broken over their heads. I am confident that I shall find them labouring at their posts, and that whatever expert knowledge, human sympathy or material assistance can contribute to the relief of the suffering peasants, will be forthcoming until the enemy has been finally vanquished and has disappeared. You have concluded by asking me to convey to Her Majesty the Queen Empress the expression of your loyalty and devotion. I shall have great pleasure in carrying out your desire, and I doubt not that Her Majesty will be rejoiced to receive one more addition to many loyal messages that from time to time have reached her from the city in which Her Imperial title was first proclaimed, and in whose prosperity she has never failed to display the most lively interest. I should like, in conclusion, to add one word of personal thank as to the particular from which the casket and Address have been taken. I am always glad when these presentations are made to me to receive something especially reminiscent of occupations or arts of the place where the presentation occurs, and it is with satisfaction that I notice that the casket containing the Address bears on the lid and sides in miniature for which the artists of this part of India have always been famous, and which appears to me that they practise as well at the present time as in by-gone days.

A NOTICE has been issued by the Telegraph Department that all private telegrams, whether in code or plain language transiting the cable between Aden and Zanzibar, are subject to the censorship of the military authorities at Aden.

THE arrangements in connection with the forthcoming Mishmi expedition are proceeding apace. At present the expedition consists of Colonel Molesworth in command, Major Kerr (Staff Officer and Intelligence Officer), Mr. Needham (Political Officer), two subalterns and 200 men, 44th Gurkhas; two subalterns and 200 men, 42nd Gurkhas; one subaltern and 100 men, 43rd Gurkhas; 250 Police under Captain Chatterton; 250 of the 10th B. I. under Major Macartney, and 50 Sappers under Captain Robertson. Captain Macleod, Medical Officer of the 10th Bengal Infantry, will be in medical charge. The expedition will start from Sadiya about December 1st.

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, OCT. 27. General Symons was buried on Tuesday at Dundee. An Anglican clergyman officiated at the funeral, and a few medical officers and civilians were present, but no Boers.

LONDON, OCT. 28. The Mahomedans of Capetown held a meeting on the 26th inst., to discuss the best means of assisting the Imperial Government, and Imams were instructed to confer with their congregations concerning the same.

Two more hospital ships are going to the Cape, which will make four in all.

Three hundred picked seamen have left Portsmouth to replace the Naval Brigade landed at the Cape. They have taken a number of field guns with them.

LONDON, OCT. 27. A French war vessel has been ordered to South-East Africa.

LONDON, OCT. 27. Parliament was prorogued to-day. The Queen in her Speech congratulates Parliament on the brilliant qualities of her brave regiments in repelling the invasion of her colonies, and deplores the loss of gallant Officers and soldiers. She trusts the Divine blessing will rest on her gallant army.

LONDON, OCT. 27. Mr. Guthrie, the Conservative candidate, was elected for the Bow and Bromley Division of Tower Hamlets in the place of the Hon. Lionel Holland, resigned, and defeating Mr. Spender, the Radical candidate, by 2,205 votes. The seat was contested on the Transvaal policy of the Government.

The polling was as follows: Guthrie ... 4,328 Spender ... 2,123

LONDON, OCT. 27. Sir Henry Stafford Northcote has been appointed Governor of Bombay.

LONDON, OCT. 28. There are indications that an engagement is impending at Ladysmith.

The Boers are in force on the Helpmaker road, and General Sir George White has ordered out a strong force.

The Boers are only about four miles from the British.

Two hundred and fifty Victorians and 80 Tasmanians left Melbourne this afternoon for South Africa on board the steamer Medic, which will call at Adelaide and Albany and embark 125 men at each place.

The steamship Kent has sailed with the first portion of the Sydney contingent for the Cape.

The men embarked amid tremendous enthusiasm.

Major Wrottesley, Royal Engineers and head of the Telegraph Department with General Sir Redvers Buller's army, has been drowned at Tenerife on his way out to the Cape.

The Braemar Castle with 1,400 troops has arrived at Cape Town.

(From the Pioneer's London Correspondent).

LONDON, OCT. 28. Official correspondence published at Cape Town between Mr. Schreiner and the Vryburg Magistrate shows that the main reason why Vryburg was surrendered was that a portion of the inhabitants who should have been available for defence sided with the enemy, virtually betraying the place.

Mr. Hoffman, a Member of the Cape Assembly, has left Pearl for the Transvaal with an ambulance party. There is great indignation at his being allowed to cross the border, as he may give the enemy information.

The Times correspondent at Ladysmith telegraphing on Wednesday says that the storming of Talana Hill was perhaps the most brilliant achievement of British infantry since Albuera. Colonel Wilford was killed gallantly leading his battalion, and the Second-in-Command was slightly wounded. The final assault when the hill was taken and the artillery was rushed up to the neck, would have ended in the annihilation of the retreating Boers, but owing to some misunderstanding regarding an armistice the opportunity was lost.

LONDON, OCT. 29. All was quiet at Ladysmith yesterday, and to-day the Boers are closing in and placing their big guns in position.

A sortie was made from Mafeking on the 24th, when the enemy was found to be in a strong position northwards.

The Boers have cut off the water works from Mafeking, but the tanks are ample for the garrison.

Tuesday's fighting at Kimberley is officially confirmed.

Lieutenants Lowndes and Bingham of the Royal North Lancshires, were severely wounded; and Lieutenant MacIntosh, of the Royal Engineers, was slightly wounded.

General White telegraphs that three Boer guns found at Glencoe were dismounted and disabled.

The Boer losses on the 20th inst. were five hundred.

(From the Englishman's correspondent.)

LONDON, OCT. 31. The engagement at Ladysmith was of the severest possible character.

One of the chief incidents was an Artillery Duel, in which the Naval contingent displayed some wonderful marksmanship, succeeding in silencing the Boer long range guns in five rounds.

The British cavalry proved extraordinarily useful, the 5th Lancers especially distinguished themselves by several brilliant charges.

LONDON, OCT. 31. The naval brigade from the battleship Powerful with heavy quick-firing guns arrived at Ladysmith during the night and at their fourth shot disabled the enemy's siege gun which was of longer range than our field artillery.

Unofficial reports say that General White's plan of action was upset by the Boers evacuating what appeared to be their principal position.

The Boers then attacked our right flank which had to be largely re-inforced from the centre.

Eventually the British retired under heavy fire, gallantly covered by our Artillery.

Two guns of the 53rd Battery were temporarily lost, but afterwards recovered.

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

The official account of yesterday's engagement states that the Irish Fusiliers, the Gloucesters and the 10th Mountain Battery were detached to protect the left flank and obliged to capitulate after losing heavily.

General White adds that he alone is responsible.

LONDON, OCT. 31, 10-15 P.M. Forty-two officers and about two thousand men capitulated.

It appears the force was surrounded in the hills.

Captains Rice and Silver and Lieutenant Dooner of the Irish Fusiliers and Captains Duncan and Conner of the Gloucesters are wounded.

(From the Bombay Gazette's Correspondent).

LONDON, OCT. 31. The position at Ladysmith remains unchanged, with the exception that the Boers have moved nearer to General White's position.

A battle is imminent. General White's communications are threatened, and it is believed the Boers intend to destroy the Colenso Bridge over the Tagela river, about six miles south of Ladysmith by the use of dynamite.

The Boer force has been located by means of ballooning operations, and have disposed their force, which is large, in a semi-circle around Ladysmith.

The Imperial troops and the Boers have not yet come into conflict.

The latest wire of the same correspondent states that after several hours' fighting at Ladysmith the Boers were driven back several miles, being repulsed with heavy losses.

The British loss is estimated to amount to between eighty and one hundred killed and wounded.

The mules of the Mountain Battery stamped during the night, and the guns are missing, but it is hoped they will be recovered.

Two battalions of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucesters Regiment are missing.

They were out during the night and had not returned up to 4-30 in the afternoon. Their absence is causing much anxiety, though it is hoped they will return in the evening.

The above account is the official version of the fighting.

In the opinion of experts the news seems to indicate a somewhat severe reverse to our army.

LONDON, OCT. 31. General Sir Redvers Buller has arrived at Cape Town.

The transport Zebengula with Field Artillery has arrived at Capetown.

LONDON, OCT. 31 2-45 P.M. Three extra battalions and a Mountain Battery sail in about ten days to replace the casualties at Ladysmith.

(From the I. D. News Correspondent).

LONDON, OCT. 31. A most profound sensation has been caused here by the disaster to our arms at Ladysmith, and the general impression is that it would have been much worse, had the Naval Brigade not arrived at a critical moment.

The heavy guns from H. M. S. Powerful were most skilfully handled by the sailors and they silenced the Boer Artillery which would otherwise have done terrible execution. Admiration for the Naval Brigade is expressed on all hands. It was due to it that the retreat was not turned into a rout.

As it was, Colonel Grimwood's Brigade had to withdraw very rapidly from the position it had taken up, which Sir George White now admits was untenable. The retreat was covered by the Naval guns which checked the advancing enemy.

Sir George White has acquitted the troops of all blame. They did all that would be done to extricate themselves from the unfortunate position into which they had been unwisely led.

A RESPECTABLE pleader of Mozufferpur was going to Calcutta and as he arrived at the station nearly an hour before the time, he thought he would wait in the waiting-room. But as he was entering the gate, a Eurasian guard asked the pleader not to enter the station without ticket; thereupon the pleader replied, "when the tickets are sold, I will take one; but what authority have you not to allow the passengers into the waiting-room, specially when passengers are 2nd class men?" It is alleged that the Eurasian guard whose temper was up at this remark pushed the pleader, whereupon the guard was severely handled by the pleader.—Behar Herald.

FROM the report of the Sivakasi riot case appearing in the Madras papers, particulars of the brutal treatment some of the victims received at the hands of the Maravars are gathered. A witness stated that when the attack commenced, he shut his son-in-law, his wife, and three months' old infant in a godown and climbed on to the roof to watch the rioters. The Maravars, learning that some people were secreted in the godown, burst it open, and killed the man and woman, cutting off their heads with single blows from a bill-hook. Before murdering the woman, they brutally snatched her infant from her and threw it away. The little one was afterwards found by the father with his head battered in but still alive. It died shortly after it was taken to the hospital, where the father could not get it attended to.

THE "Braemar Castle," which Reuter informed us on Sunday, had arrived at Cape Town, took out from England more than 1,500 officers and men. Some of them, not very many, were connected with the Army Medical Staff; there were Nurses in grey uniforms; there were men and officers of the Army Ordnance Department; there were Royal Engineers. But, in substance, the officers and men whom the Braemar Castle carried were those of the Army Service Corps, the navies, so to speak, of the Army. They may not be, in fact, they are not, comparable in point of appearance to a smart Line battalion, but in point of physique, they are remarkable. They are admitted to the Army Service Corps only if they come up to a physical standard considerably higher than that of the Army generally. But the point to be remembered was that these sturdy fellows, albeit armed, were not intended to be fighting men. They were simply going to prepare the way for the Army Corps which is to follow.—I. D. News.

OUR WAR PREPARATIONS.

How far successful has the War Office been in preparing for what must prove a momentous chapter in our colonial history? Before criticising the arrangements made it would be well to remember that military considerations invariably have to give way to political exigencies. Otherwise, there can be little doubt that the strength of the British Empire would ere this have been adequately represented in South Africa. The difficulties which faced the War Office at the outset were of unusual kind. There was the uncertainty as to the fighting strength of the Boers, about which great difference of opinion still exists. Then there was the attitude of the Orange Free State to be considered. The Natal frontier creates exceptional difficulties. A salient angle jutting into a neighbouring and possibly hostile country is of necessity exceedingly vulnerable; and would in ordinary circumstances and even in peace time, be occupied by a considerable force. But our ordinary forces in Natal do not admit of such an arrangement. To proceed, therefore, when strained relations arise, immediately to occupy such a district, would be little else than a direct menace. The occupying force, too, in order to escape isolation, would have to be sufficiently strong to guard its communications. On the Bechuanaland side the railway runs for some 300 miles within 30 or 40 miles of the Transvaal frontier; in places—at Mafeking, for instance—it is much closer still. The vulnerability of this long line is at once apparent; and, although the strategical effect of a successful Boer raid in that direction might not be far-reaching, the moral effect of such a coup might be. An army corps, judged from the Continental standpoint, is not a very overwhelming force, but it is an enormous body of men to embark on an emergency. It is a task which the Continental war offices are not called upon to face. Moreover the irregular system of fighting, and the reliance which the Boers place on what is really a natural as distinguished from a scientific mode of waging war, creates for our Generals the difficulties which an experienced fencer sometimes has in encountering the onslaught of an unskilled antagonist.

THE QUESTION OF TRANSPORT.

To meet these varying and to a certain extent exceptional circumstances, the War Office has not been idle. In Sir Redvers Buller a chief has been selected in whom the country justly places entire confidence. Before reinforcements were sent out, the troops in Cape Colony consisted of three and-a-half battalions and various administrative details; while those in Natal comprised three battalions, two cavalry regiments, and three field and one mountain battery as well as some Engineers. One battalion, however, the 1st Liverpool, was in August despatched to Natal. Not long afterwards another, the 1st Manchester, was likewise sent there from Gibraltar. The forces in Natal have now gradually been moved nearer the frontier. Meanwhile in the Cape the garrison has been augmented by the 1st Munster Fusiliers and some Engineers, while two battalions have been sent forward for the protection of Bechuanaland. As for irregular forces, one is being organised in the West by Colonel Baden-Powell; and a corps of Imperial light horse is in course of formation in Natal. The Cabinet Council of 8th September decided to send in addition an infantry brigade consisting of three battalions from the Mediterranean and one from England, as well as a brigade division of field artillery. An Indian contingent of similar strength, supplemented by a cavalry brigade, was also sanctioned. It can hardly be hoped that the whole force will be ready to take the field before the close of October, when Sir George White will have under him some 20,000 men in Natal. A large number of staff officers have also left for South Africa. But the situation for the next few weeks must inevitably be an exceedingly anxious one. Our troops on the spot are barely sufficient even for defensive operations. More expedition might have been displayed in embarking the reinforcements, when their despatch had been approved. Generally speaking the faults seen to lie, not with the military authorities, but the naval transport department. Perhaps a more rational system would be to abolish the middleman in the shape of the Admiralty—now that it is a mere question of hiring ships—and to allow the War Office to make its own arrangements with the shipping companies. But that plan would necessitate the presence of a permanent naval staff at the War Office. In any case a more elaborate system of overhauling the ships engaged is shown to be necessary by the experience of the two transports, which recently embarked the artillery at Liverpool. One was delayed some days in the Mersey, and the other was compelled to put into Queenstown through defective machinery.

THE WAR OFFICE HAS DONE WELL.

Still the War Office has so far come well out of the situation. Supplies and horses have been carefully attended to, and a large force of Army Service Corps has already embarked. It is to be hoped that our long neglect of that service—although it is true that recently a large increase was provided for—will not be felt in the present instance. How the mobilisation will work remains to be seen. But that the mobilisation department—a comparatively new and highly successful branch of war office administration—will be capable of solving these problems may be taken as well assured. Throughout there has been a commendable absence of fuss and flurry; and the troops hitherto sent out have been most judiciously selected so as to disorganise, as little as possible, existing arrangements. The despatch of so large a force of cavalry is a wise move, for the Boers seem somewhat imperfectly to understand the action of that arm. Perhaps nothing is more pathetic in Kolley's disastrous campaign than the spectacle of those wretched "make believe mounted men"—as Sir William Butler calls them—who vainly tried to perform cavalry duties. Much has been said of the Boer artillery. But long training and experience alone can make that arm effective. Can the Boers have learnt the art of handling guns? If they have not done so, their artillery is likely to prove a serious disadvantage to them. In any case the presence of guns will necessitate a change in that system of combined individual action, from which we suffered so much eighteen years ago. It can only be hoped that our reinforcements will arrive in time. The immense resources of the British Empire must ultimately prevail, but it would be lamentable if a minor British

reverse early in the campaign were the outcome of an over sensitive desire on our part to avert war.—The Saturday Review.

IS THE ELEPHANT FOLLOWING THE DODO?

IN the *Revue de Paris*, M. Foa, a well-known hunter of big game in Africa, puts in a most eloquent plea on behalf of the African elephant, for whom he entreates a certain measure of protection. He points out that a hundred years ago the elephant might be found spread over the greater part of South Africa, but that now elephant land only comprises one-tenth of what it once did. During the last thirty years the elephant has been gradually disappearing from African soil, and M. Foa pays a very high tribute to the wisdom of the Anglo-Indian Government, which strictly forbids the slaying—either for the sake of the ivory or for sport—of an elephant of Indian territory. M. Foa has studied these huge creatures at very close quarters, and gives some touching and interesting details of what may be called their home life. He declares that maternal love is developed to a very high degree in the female elephant. When taking any long, dangerous journey, the mother pushes her little calf in front of her, holding him up with her trunk, and if traversing a river, makes him swim just in front of her, while if high grasses and closely interwoven bushes bar the way, the female places her baby behind her and carefully opens a passage through which he can pass. When the calf begins to eat ordinary food, the mother chooses the best fruit and teaches him how to eat it, and before washing herself at a spring first douches her offspring with her trunk. M. Foa considers that the elephant's trunk plays a far greater part in its existence than is generally supposed; in fact, he regards the trunk as a sixth sense. It is through the trunk that the elephant can smell the approach of an enemy, his sense of sight being so little developed that on many an occasion an elephant has mistaken an antelope for a man. Again, an elephant cannot hear anything but a very loud noise unless it occurs quite close to his ears. The modern ivory hunter is quite indifferent to those who may come after him. As long as he can get a good quantity of this valuable product he gives no thought to the morrow, and in one year in Africa alone close upon 50,000 elephants were slaughtered simply for the sake of their tusks. Iately there has been some attempt to ascertain how many herds still remain in Africa, but it is almost impossible to make a census of this kind. It is, however, quite certain that unless measures are taken at once, the African elephant will be as extinct as the dodo in thirty years' time. M. Foa takes great pains to point out the many useful services which an elephant can render to man. So highly intelligent is the Indian species that all over the country elephants are employed in factories, and on one occasion M. Foa saw one of those huge beasts placing long blocks of wood in serried lines. Each time a block had been placed in position, the elephant stepped back to see if he had put it quite straight, and if it was not so he carefully pushed it into its place before fetching another to go on with. When the day's work is over—that is to say, when he hears a bell ring—the elephant carefully puts down that which he is carrying with his trunk, and not until he has placed it where it should be, does he go off joyfully to his stable. In Siam the elephant is often turned *pro tem*, into a child's nurse, and, as M. Foa significantly points out, instead of occupying itself with the passing policeman or soldier, devotes itself entirely to its precious charge, and if it sees a vehicle of suspicious-looking individual in the distance, takes up the child with its trunk, and puts it between its legs, where it is quite safe. "As man-of-war, as hunter, as workman, as labourer, as carrier, and as a child's nurse, this incomparable animal accomplishes any task confided to him with submission and docility."

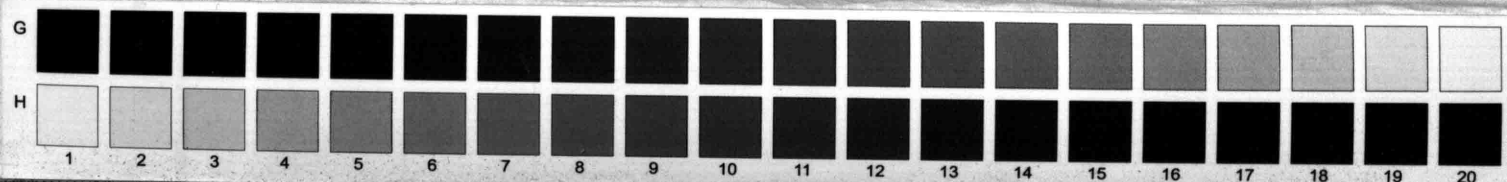
M. Foa hopes to call together in the year 1900 a congress for the special object of protecting the African elephant. He would like to see during the next few years a close time established for ivory, and he advises that a reward should be given to those who can effect the capture of the elephant without hunting him, and in such a fashion that he may afterwards be utilized in civilised life. He thinks that it is incumbent on those who make the law for that region of Africa where the elephant is found, to combine together to inflict a heavy penalty on those who want only to injure this noble animal and would make it a grave offence to kill or capture elephant calves. It is to be hoped that M. Foa will be successful in his humanitarian enterprise, which deserves every possible encouragement.

THE NATU CASE.

THE following circular was distributed on Monday among the voting delegates for Legislative Council Elections, Southern Group, Trinichinopoly:—

Gentlemen,—To-day you are met here to discharge your duties as representatives of the people to elect the Hon. members to the Legislative Council, there to make laws, ventilate our grievances and get them redressed—a great and honourable privilege indeed. We learn also a public demonstration has been arranged this evening in connection with the elections in honour of the would-be members. But we believe here is also the necessity for exerting ourselves towards the freedom of persons who are being virtually imprisoned and confined for years, without any charge preferred against them or a trial being accorded to them. Are the Brothers Natu to be still confined in prison and we continue to hold public meetings of rejoicings? This we believe to be an occasion when we should impress upon the *élite* of our countrymen that the highest privilege of the subject ought not to be allowed to be thus trampled upon and that the grievances should be redressed as early as possible. We are sure that you will signalise your pleasant social gathering this evening by starting a movement for the liberation of our esteemed countrymen—the Brothers Natu—and take needful steps for getting this long standing grievance redressed.

We beg to remain &c. S. T. Rangaswami Aiyar, B. A., B. L. S.; Ganamuthu, M. A., T. V.; Swaminatha Aiyar, B. A., L. T.; and S. Soobramania Satsry, B. A.



DOCUMENTS IN THE CHUPRA CASE.

Application of Nursing Singh before the lower Court.

In the Court of Moulvi Zakir Hossen, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate, Chapra. Queen-Empress vs. Prosecutor

Nursing Singh vs. Accused

The humble petition of Nursing Singh, accused, most respectfully sheweth:

1. That Mr. E. H. Corbett in his evidence had said that his report would not have seen the light of day had the accused not attended the hospital on Sunday, the 20th current.

2. That the person from whom he had received information about the accused's attendance in the hospital was not disclosed by him and the Court, too, did not allow disclosure of the same. The accused has reason to believe that the information was given either by the Civil Surgeon or the Assistant Civil Surgeon, and thereupon the Assistant Superintendent went to the District Superintendent, who sent for the accused and took him in his carriage to the Officiating Deputy Magistrate, who ultimately, upon the report made by the Assistant Superintendent, ordered the trial of the accused by Moulvi Zakir Hossen, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate, and the accused was immediately ordered by the District Magistrate to be taken into custody by his orderlies and produced before the Court Sub-Inspector, who immediately made over the accused to the constables in order to be kept under lock and key.

3. That the above acts of *zulm*, transpired on Sunday, the 20th of the current month.

4. That the Assistant Superintendent, having stolen a march upon the accused, succeeded in getting the accused file his petition of complaint against him and Mr. Simkins on Wednesday following as both of them joined in committing the offences described in the petition of complaint.

5. Under the circumstances, it is prayed that this Court will be graciously pleased to secure, on the 2nd proximo, the date fixed for the accused's examining defence witnesses, the attendance of the present Offg. District Magistrate, the District Superintendent and the Civil Surgeon, and the Assistant Civil Surgeon of the District, and the two orderlies of the District Magistrate so that the true facts may come to light and justice be done to the petitioner.

The petitioner through Jagannath Sahay, Pleader.

Chapra, 29-8-99.

Application of Babu Jagannath Sahay, pleader for the defence.

In the Court of Moulvi Zakir Hossen, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate, Chapra. Queen-Empress vs. Nursing Singh, accused. Most respectfully sheweth:

1. That the Court has this day added charges under Sections, 504, Indian Penal Code, and 29 of the Police Act at the instance of the Court Sub-Inspector after the evidence, and the arguments for both sides had closed and after the Court had expressed its opinion that the original charges under Sections 186 and 353, Indian Penal Code, were not sustainable in view of the ruling reported in I. L. R. 9 Bom. p. 558.

2. That in respect of the new charges, the accused, through his pleader, intimated to the Court that in defence the accused wanted to examine the Civil Surgeon, the Officiating District Magistrate and the District Superintendent as witnesses and then the accused's pleader in the presence of the District Superintendent, who was sitting beside the Court, was asked to explain the object of their examination which he did with protest. Besides them, the two orderlies of the Officiating District Magistrate who took the accused in their custody to the Court Sub-Inspector, should also be summoned on the 7th September, the date fixed for the hearing of the case.

3. That the accused wanted to cross-examine, on the new charges, Mr. E. H. Corbett in this Court, but the Court, to all intents and purposes, refused that prayer, ignoring the views expressed and reasons given by their Lordships in I. L. R. 8 Cal. p. 689 by saddling the accused with costs covering the pay and the travelling allowance of the said gentleman, who is in fact the complainant, as at his instance the criminal proceedings against the accused have commenced, and by calling upon the accused to put in interrogatories which may very easily be answered with the help of others. The accused, however, is willing to go to Backergunge and take his pleader there should the Court in justice and fairness order the Crown to pay the travelling allowance of the accused and his pleader besides Rs. 100 per diem by way of fee for his labors - for it is the Crown that wants to harass the accused after charges under sections 186 and 353 have failed and to save Mr. E. H. Corbett and the District Engineer, Mr. Simkins, from being subjected to criminal prosecution on the complaint of the accused which finds corroboration in main particulars in the solemn statements made by them as witnesses for the Crown.

4. That the Court has imported into the charge under section 504 the words of Mr. Simkins, examined as a witness on behalf of the Crown, the evidence of the virtual complainant, Mr. E. H. Corbett, as well as the report on which the criminal prosecution was instituted, being wholly silent on the use of the word "Tumbara."

5. That for the reasons stated above it is prayed that Mr. E. H. Corbett be summoned here or the accused be given every facility as indicated above for cross-examination of the said complainant, Mr. E. H. Corbett, personally, by pleader, and not by interrogatories that the Court be graciously pleased to summon the Civil Surgeon, the District Superintendent, the present Offg. District Magistrate and the two orderlies of the District Magistrate for the 7th instant, as witnesses for the accused.

Jagannath Sahay, Pleader for the accused. 5-9-99.

Affidavit of Babu Jagannath Sahay, pleader for the defence.

In the Court of the Sessions Judge, Saran, at Motihari.

Nursing Singh vs. Appellant

Queen-Empress vs. Respondent

Affidavit of Jagannath Sahay, son of Gadar Sahay deceased, at present of Tola Daheawan in Chapra.

1. I am a pleader of the District Judge's Court, Saran.

2. I was a pleader for Nursing Singh, accused, and Nursing Singh as complainant against Mr. E. H. Corbett, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Simkins, the District Engineer.

3. I met Nursing Singh near my lodgings, in Daheawan Tola, while he was being taken to the Court Sub-Inspector of Police by the two orderlies of the District Magistrate, whom I know by face, but whose names I do not know, and the said Nursing Singh told me that he had come to complain against the Sahibs when he was suddenly sent for by the District Superintendent of Police from the Charitable Hospital, where he had come for treatment of the wounds inflicted by the above-named Sahibs; that he accordingly went and was taken along in the carriage in which the Assistant District Superintendent and the District Superintendent drove to the Officiating District Magistrate's house; that the District Magistrate without hearing him, had ordered his prosecution and that he was to remain in hospital until he could furnish bail to the amount of Rs. 200, and that he stood in need of my help as a pleader. This was on Sunday, the 20th of August last.

4. I appeared for the said accused and cross-examined Mr. Corbett who, in answer to a question of mine in cross-examination, said, "My report would not have seen the light of day had it not been for the attendance of the accused in the hospital on Sunday," and in answer to another question he said, "I drew up a report at the Collector's house: the District Superintendent gave the necessary sanction there, and the Deputy Magistrate ordered prosecution. We had some discussion about law points."

5. The above points were specially prominently brought to the notice of the Deputy Magistrate, Moulvi Zakir Hossen Khan, Bahadur, by me, on the 21st ultimo.

6. On Monday, the 21st ultimo, the Assistant Superintendent was cross-examined, and on Tuesday, the 22nd ultimo, the District Engineer was cross-examined. But the learned Deputy Magistrate took down the statements of the accused before the cross-examination of the Assistant Superintendent who was, to all intents and purposes, the complainant and that of the District Engineer.

7. On 22nd ultimo, the 2nd September was the date fixed, for hearing the defence witnesses, and their argument. Up to this date the Government Pleader was not engaged in the case.

8. On the 2nd September no witnesses for the accused were examined as the Deputy Magistrate refused to summon the witnesses named by the defendant in his petition, and the case was argued on the charges, under sections 186 and 353 I. P. C., which were framed by the Deputy Magistrate on the 22nd ultimo.

9. I opposed the Court Sub-Inspector's giving reply on Monday, the 4-9-99 but the Deputy Magistrate granted him time.

10. On Monday, 4-9-99, the Deputy Magistrate, according to the discussions which the District Superintendent of Police had made on Saturday last on the *tylas*, in the presence of Mokhtear, framed two other charges at the instance of the Court Sub-Inspector and then I made my application orally for the cross-examination of the aforesaid Assistant Superintendent and the District Engineer on the new charges, and renewed my application for the examination of the Civil Surgeon, the District Superintendent, the Officiating District Magistrate and the two orderlies of the District Magistrate.

11. The learned Deputy Magistrate again refused the application so far as the cross-examination of the Assistant Superintendent and the examination of the gentlemen in the petition above referred to were concerned, and 7th September was the date fixed for hearing arguments on the new charges as no witnesses were to be examined for the defence because of the rejection of the application aforesaid by the Deputy Magistrate. The Government Pleader was engaged for the Crown on the 7th. I argued the case and objected strongly to the Government Pleader's giving reply as no defence witnesses had been examined, but I was overruled by the Deputy Magistrate.

12. The new charges under sections 504 I.P.C. and 529 Act V of 1861 were added after consultation (but I believe from pressure on the part of) with the District Superintendent of Police with whom the learned Deputy Magistrate, as he told me, had discussed the law. He wanted to discuss the law with me, but I declined as the District Superintendent was sitting beside the Deputy Magistrate on the *tylas*.

13. The Deputy Magistrate, without rhyme or reason, after my explanation of the object with which I wanted to examine the persons named in the application, rejected the same, and this confirmed me in my belief that outside influence or pressure was at work and that no stones will be left unturned to convict Nursing Singh, however fair and strong the latter's case may be according to the laws and rulings in force.

14. That on the 7th current after my arguments and hearing the Government Pleader, in spite of my objections, the records were allowed to go out of the Court-room for the perusal of the District Magistrate, the District Superintendent and the District Engineer, who formed the triumvirate as it were, to judge what offence had been proved and how the accused should be dealt with. Of this meeting of the three gentlemen in one room outside the Court-room of the Deputy Magistrate, which was witnessed by a respectable Mokhtear whom I do not like to name here as his name may be entered in the black book, I learnt from him.

15. That the conviction ordered by the Deputy Magistrate is wholly unsupported by a reliable and satisfactory evidence.

16. That the accused is a Rajput by caste and a man of some position in society.

17. That the trial has been irregularly conducted by the Deputy Magistrate to the prejudice of the accused.

I Jagannath Sahay do hereby solemnly declare that the statements herein made are true to the best of my knowledge and information as specified above.

Chapra. JAGANNATH SAHAY. 8-9-99

Grounds of Appeal.

In the Court of the Sessions Judge, Saran Motihari.

Nursing Singh vs. Appellant

Queen-Empress vs. Respondent.

The above-named appellant, dissatisfied with the sentence of conviction dated 8-9-99, passed by Moulvi Zakir Hossen, Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate, begs to prefer this appeal on the following among other grounds—

1. That the learned Deputy Magistrate was wrong to add new charges under Sc. 504 I. P. C. and Sc. 29 of the Police Act after he had expressed his opinion that the charges under sections 186 and 353 were untenable.

2. That the learned Deputy Magistrate was wrong not to allow the cross-examination of the Asst. Superintendent, Mr. E. H. Corbett, on the new charges added on the 4-9-99.

3. That the learned Deputy Magistrate is wrong in law in not summoning the Civil Surgeon, the District Superintendent, and the District Magistrate from whom several points tending to prove the aggression of the complainant and the innocence of the appellant would have been elicited as explained by the appellant's pleader to the Deputy Magistrate.

4. That the learned Deputy Magistrate is wrong in applying section 504 to the facts as disclosed in the evidence.

5. That the learned Deputy Magistrate is wrong in convicting the appellant under sections 352 and 114 I. P. C. under which he was never charged, when the complainant himself was in the aggressive and when it is alleged in the defence that the appellant had come on sick-leave, was badly laid up with fever, was kicked and beaten.

6. That the learned Deputy Magistrate is wrong in believing the District Engineer, who has been guilty of wantonly criminal acts for which he had to tender apology.

7. That the learned Deputy Magistrate has acted illegally in preventing the appellant from cross-examining the Assistant Superintendent, the actual complainant, by saddling him with the payment of travelling allowance and pay of the Assistant Superintendent who is really the complainant, at whose instance the criminal proceeding was started against the appellant.

8. That the learned Deputy Magistrate was wrong in allowing time to the Court Sub-Inspector for reply and in allowing the Government Pleader to reply on the 7th September, although no examination of defence witnesses had taken place.

9. For the reasons and under the circumstances set forth above it is prayed that this Court will be graciously pleased to admit this appeal on perusal of the judgment and the accompanying affidavit and will further be pleased to send for the records of the case, to quash the conviction and sentence, and to set the appellant at large on bail during the pendency of the appeal. The appellant further prays that if a trial *de novo* by another Deputy Magistrate be considered just and proper, the same may be ordered as the appellant's trial has been most irregular to his prejudice.

Chapra. Jagannath Sahay, Pleader for applt.

Application of Babu Jagannath Sahay.

District Judge, Saran and Mathihari. Honored Sir,

This appeal was sent by me through my Taid, Kashi Nath Sahay, for being filed in your Honor's Court at Mathihari. Babu Hargovind Sahay, Mokhtear, was engaged to file the appeal, but, for some reasons best known to him, after having signed the *Vakalatnama*, he declined to file the appeal.

The appeal has this morning been brought back by my Taid.

As the appellant is rotting in jails, I take the liberty to send it by post to your Honor, as the appellant is a poor man and can't afford to pay a Pleader or a Mokhtear here to go to Mathihari. I may add here that I worked for him gratis before the lower Court, as, to my mind, he had been subjected to *zulm*.

I therefore pray that your Honor will be graciously pleased to entertain this appeal and pass such orders as to your Honor may seem fit. For the above act of kindness, I shall feel extremely thankful, and shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

I have the honor &c. Jagannath Sahay

Chapra, 10-9-99.

INFORMATION has been received that the Hindu Magistrate of Heggedadankote, near Mysore, has netted four tigers. They are being engaged and brought to the Mysore Zoological Gardens.

On the return of Colonel Robertson, Resident at Mysore from leave, Mr. J. A. Crawford returns to his appointment as Commissioner, Berar, and the various officers officiating will revert.

A NATIVE Astrologer at Bangalore predicts a great calamity there within the next few days. Some people are actually leaving the place, going to outlying villages. It has been raining for the last twelve hours.

ON Saturday last experiments with a new form of dummies for the transport of the wounded in war were carried out at Jutogh in the presence of General Gaselee, General Taylor, P. M. O., and Officers of the Head-Quarters Staff.

THE Imperial bacteriological Laboratory at Parel, Bombay, has sent 25,000 doses of the Haffkine prophylactic to London for the Local Government Board, and 10,000 doses to Port Arthur for the Russian Government.

It is reported that Sardar Habibulla Khan has returned to Kabul from his summer residence at Hindki and Sardar Nasrullah Khan from his at Chihie Tar. The Amir is expected to arrive at Kabul shortly from Balabagh.

CAPTAIN STALKARTT, R. A., M. C., who was knocked down and kicked about the head and face by a horse at Saturday evening's Gymkhana sports at Benares, resulting in concussion of the brain and other injuries, is a little better, but not out of danger. Captain O'Gorman, I. M. S. 17th Royal Infantry and Colonel Sweeney, Civil Surgeon, are devoting every attention to the sufferer. Captain Stalkartt, who was standing by one of the hurdles intending to snap-shot horses taking jumps, met with his accident through Lieutenant Spence's (Black Watch) horse swerving round and knocking him over.

GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

The services of Mr. H. H. Risley, C. I. E., Secy to the Govt of Bengal, Finl and Muni Depts, on furlough, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India in the Home Dept.

Babu Abinagh Chandra Dasu, Dy. Magte and Dy. Collr, on leave, is posted to Arrah.

Babu Khagendra Nath Mitra, Dy. Magte and Dy. Collr, Chudanga, is transferred to Krishnagar.

Mr. J. J. Platel, Offg. Jt-Magte and Dy. Collr, Jessore, is appointed to have charge of the Jhenida Sub-div.

Mr. Birendra Chandra Sen, Asst. Magte and Collr, is appointed to act in the first grade of Jt. Magtes and Dy. Collrs and is posted to Dinajpur, on being relieved of his present appointment as Offg. Magte and Collr of Bogra.

Babu Srinath Sen, Offg. Dy. Magte and Dy. Collr, on leave, is posted to Chittagong.

Mr. L. F. Morshead, Jt. Magte and Dy. Collr, on furlough, is appointed to act until further orders, as Magte and Collr of Bogra.

Major F. A. C. Kreyer is appointed to act as Cantt Magte of Dinapore, during the absence on leave, of Major G. H. Watson, or until further orders. Major Kreyer is also appointed to have charge of the Dinapore Sub-div.

Mr. S. J. Douglas, Dist and Sess Judge, Dacca, was on leave for fourteen days.

Mr. Barada Charan Mitra, Offg. Dist and Sess Judge, Faridpur, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. P. Nolan, Commr of the Rajshahi Div is allowed furlough, under article 340 (b) of the Civil Service Reg from the 22nd Nov 1899 to the 15th Oct 1900.

Mr. C. J. O'Donnell, I. C. S., who lost lien on his appointment, is appointed to be a Commr of a Div, and is appointed to act as Commr of the Rajshahi Divn.

Mr. W. C. Fasson, Dist Suptd of Police, Purnea, is transferred to Faridpur.

Mr. J. M. Coates, Asst Suptd of Police, on furlough, is appointed to have charge of the Dist Police of Gya. This cancels the order of the 24th Oct 1899, appointing him to have charge of the Dist. Police of Faridpur.

Mr. G. D. Graham, Dist Suptd of Police, on furlough, is posted to Purnea. This cancels the order of the 24th Oct 1899 posting him to Gaya.

Mr. W. Swain, Asst Suptd of Police, Shahabad, is transferred to Purnea, and is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Dist Police of that Dist.

Babu Amrita Sikhar Mukherjee, Sub-Dy. Collr, is posted to the Presy Div on being relieved of his present appointment as Asst Settlement Officer of the Govt estates in Tippera.

Babu Janendra Mohan Ghosh, Sub-Dy. Collr, on leave, is posted to the Rajshahi Div.

Maulvie Syed Azizuddin Mohamad Abul Barkaat, sub pro tem Sub-Dy. Collr, Patna Divn, is posted temporarily to Patna.

Babu Debendra Prosad Bagchi, Munsif of Kasba, is appointed to be a Munsif of Brahmanbaria.

Babu Kisori Lal Sen, Munsif of Puri, who has been appointed to be Munsif of Brahmanbaria, is appointed to be a Munsif of Kasba.

Maulvie Syed Azizuddin Mahomed Abul Barkaat, sub pro tem Sub-Dy. Collr, who has, under the orders of the 28th October 1899, been posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the District of Patna, is allowed leave for six days, under article 275 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 9th September 1899.

THE Guzerati Brahman widow, who was charged at Benares with abandoning her illegitimate child and who on the evidence of the local police was committed to the Sessions, has been honorably acquitted by the Sessions Judge.

AMONGST the projects which have had to be abandoned for the present owing to the pressure on the Government finances due to famine, is that of the buildings which were to have been erected for the accommodation of the Royal Artillery at Manora at a cost of about five lakhs of rupees.

THE District Local Boards in the Central Division are sending in their nominations for the seat in the Bombay Legislative Council lately held by Mr. Garud. The Ahmednagar Boards, which have nine votes, have unanimously voted in favour of Professor Gokhale.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Pratul Chandra Chatterji, B. L., who was recently called to the Viceroyal Legislative Council in connection with the Punjab Courts Bills now on the Legislative annul have just resigned his membership. No reason for this sudden and unlooked for action on Mr. Chatterji's part has yet been assigned.

It is under contemplation to fit the larger bridges over the Corapaya and Murut rivers, which will be crossed by the proposed Calcutta-Canorore Railway, for the passage of cart traffic. It is estimated that the cost will be only Rs. 20,500 above the original estimate for the construction of the bridges, and that the maintenance will amount to Rs. 3,600 annually. The District Board of Malabar is considering whether it is in a position to undertake the maintenance charges.

AN official enquiry is being held into the Khost Coal Mine accident by Mr. Grundy, Inspector of Mines, a Committee of North-Western Railway officials, with Mr. Bickerton, Inspector of Railways and the District Superintendent of Police. Though the Committee are unable yet to locate the spot where the fire originated, they have elicited the fact that after the main explosion, no responsible official being present, the men working the fan stopped it in their alarm at smoke issuing from the fan vent, which would cause the smoke to beat back into the workings and suffocate the miners. The mine is still burning.

CHAMBERLAIN'S PAIN BALM CURES OTHERS, WHY NOT YOU?

My wife has been using Chamberlain's Pain Balm, with good results, for a lame shoulder that has pained her continually for nine years. We have tried all kinds of medicines and doctors without receiving any benefit from any of them. One day we saw an advertisement of this medicine and thought of trying it, which we did with the best of satisfaction. She has used only one bottle and her shoulder is almost well.—ADOLPH L. MILLETT, Manchester, N. H. For sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO., AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

THE following is the text of the Boer Ultimatum, which is dated 10th instant, President Kruger's Birthday, and is signed by Mr. Reitz:—"The Government of the South African Republic feels itself compelled to refer the Government of Her Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, once more to the Convention of London, 1884, concluded between this Republic and the United Kingdom, and which, in its 14th Article, secures certain specified rights to the white population of this Republic, namely, (here follows Article 14 of Convention of London 1884). This Government wishes further to observe that the above are the only rights which Her Majesty's Government have reserved in the above Convention with regard to the Outlander population of this Republic, and that the violation of only those rights could give that Government a right to diplomatic representations or intervention; while, moreover, the regulation of all other questions affecting the position or rights of the Outlander population under the above-mentioned Convention, is handed over to the Government and representatives of the people of the South African Republic. Amongst the questions, the regulation of which falls exclusively within the competence of the Government and of the Volksraad, are included those of franchise and representation of the people in this Republic, and although thus the exclusive right of this Government and of the Volksraad for regulation of that franchise and representation is indisputable, yet this Government has found occasion to discuss in a friendly fashion the franchise and representation of the people with Her Majesty's Government, without, however, recognising any right thereto on the part of Her Majesty's Government. This Government has also, by the formulation of the now existing Franchise Law, and the resolution in regard to representation, constantly held these friendly discussions before its eyes. On the part of Her Majesty's Government, however, the friendly nature of these discussions has assumed more and more a threatening tone, and the minds of the people in this Republic and in the whole of South Africa have been excited, and a condition of extreme tension been created. While Her Majesty's Government could no longer agree to legislation respecting the franchise, and the resolution respecting representation in this Republic, and finally by your Note of 25th September, 1899, broke off all friendly correspondence on the subject and intimated that they must now proceed to formulate their own proposals for a final settlement. This Government can only see in the above intimation from Her Majesty's Government a new violation of the Convention of London, 1884, which does not reserve to Her Majesty's Government the right to a uni-lateral settlement of questions which is exclusively a domestic one for this Government, and has already been regulated by it on account of the strained situation and the consequent serious loss in, and interruption of, trade in general, which the correspondence respecting franchise and representation in this Republic carried in its train. Her Majesty's Government have recently pressed for an early settlement, and finally pressed by your intervention for an answer within forty-eight hours (subsequently somewhat modified) to your Note of 12th September, replied to by the Note of this Government of 15th September and your Note of 25th September, 1899, and thereafter, further friendly negotiations were broken off, and this Government received intimation that the proposals for a final settlement would shortly be made; but although this promise was once more repeated, no proposal has, up to now, reached this Government. Even while the friendly correspondence was still going on, an increase of troops, on a large scale, was introduced by Her Majesty's Government and stationed in the neighbourhood of the borders of this Republic. regard to the occurrences in the history of this Republic, which it is unnecessary here to call to mind this Government felt obliged to regard this military force in the neighbourhood of its borders as a threat against the independence of the South African Republic since it was aware of no circumstances which could justify the presence of such a military force in South Africa and in the neighbourhood of its borders. In answer to an inquiry with respect thereto addressed to His Excellency the High Commissioner, this Government received, to its great astonishment, in answer a veiled insinuation that, from the side of the Republic, an attack was being made on Her Majesty's Colonies, and at the same time a mysterious reference to the possibilities, whereby it was strengthened in its suspicion that the independence of this Republic was being threatened. As a defensive measure, it was, therefore, obliged to send a portion of the burghers of this Republic, in order to offer a requisite resistance to similar possibilities. Her Majesty's unlawful intervention in the internal affairs of this Republic, in conflict with the Convention of London, 1884, caused by the extraordinary strengthening of troops in the neighbourhood of the borders of this Republic, has thus caused an intolerable condition of things to arise whereto this Government feels itself obliged, in the interest not only of this Republic but also of all South Africa, to make an end as soon as possible; and feels itself called upon and obliged to press earnestly and with emphasis for an immediate termination of this state of things, and to request Her Majesty's Government to give it the following assurances: (These were called by Reuter.)

H. E. the Viceroy visits the Ellora Caves and Dowlatabad Fort on the 15th instant, and leaves again on the 17th. The visit will strictly private and beyond the Subadar of Aurangad, no representatives of the Nizam from Hyderabad will meet His Excellency.

USED BY BRITISH SOLDIERS IN AFRICA.

Capt. C. G. Dennison is well known all over Africa as commander of the forces that captured the famous rebel Ghalish. Under date of Nov. 4, 1897, from Vryburg, Bechuanaland, he writes: "Before starting on the last campaign I bought a quantity of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I used myself when troubled with bowel complaint, and had given to my men, and in every case it proved most beneficial." For sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO., AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

A SHORT HISTORY OF A LONG STRIFE.

Under the above title the "Yorkshire Post" summarises the salient points in the history of the small community of men who for nearly a hundred years have been a scourge to the Kaffir races and a danger to the peace of South Africa. The Boers are a people whose primitive characteristics were a love of solitude coupled with a fervent religious belief that the Kaffir races were expressly created to provide Boer farms with labour and other economic comforts gratis. It was because they were not allowed these luxuries that they left the Cape and settled down in a less crowded part of the British sphere. Circumstances have since led to this Arcadia becoming as crowded as the Cape, and in that fact we have one explanation of the disturbed condition of the Boer mind. It is said of this farmer-sportsman that as soon as they can see the smoke of a neighbour's chimney across the veldt they feel it is time to make tracks and appropriate another slice of native territory; but a pestilent British Suzerain has for some years guaranteed the natives against these successive intrusions, and consequently they have felt oppressed by the stifling closeness of the atmosphere. Yet there are only some 50,000 of them all told, and the country is as large as France.

ORIGIN AND EARLY TROUBLES.

1652.—About 100 immigrants from the Netherlands settled on the site now occupied by Cape Town, under the auspices of the Dutch East India Company. These were reinforced by a number of French Huguenots, who had sought shelter in Holland, and were sent to the Cape by the Dutch Republic. The names of Joubert, Du Toit, De Villiers, and others indicate Huguenot origin. The rule of the Dutch East India Company proved irksome to the settlers, many of whom left the Company's service and took up quarters in the back country.

1814.—Cape Colony ceded to Great Britain. Its liberation from the despotic rule of the Dutch East India Company gave a great impetus to its progress.

The Boers, however, resented all interference and insisted on being a law unto themselves, especially in regard to their assumption of a right to deal as they chose with the natives.

1815.—First serious collision between English Government and the Boers. A Boer named Bezuidenhout ill-treated a Hottentot servant and was summoned to appear before the Circuit Court. Declining to appear a troop of military were sent to arrest him. Bezuidenhout fired on the soldiers, and was shot at in return and killed. The Boers rose in arms. They were defeated and five of the leaders were hanged for high treason. This has ever since ranked in the breasts of the Boers and was called the "Slagter's Neck affair."

THE GREAT "TREK."

1833.—The Act for the abolition of slavery came into force, and 35,000 slaves were liberated in Cape Colony. The Boers were large slave owners, and bitterly resented the emancipation and the limited compensation paid.

1835.—The Boers shook the dust of Cape Colony from their feet and trekked northwards. They issued a manifesto denouncing the "vexatious laws" passed in the interests of the slaves, and complaining of the losses thereby inflicted on the Boers. They moved up to Natal, and fought and finally conquered the natives. They set up a Republic but in a few years they had so incensed the natives that the peace of the Cape was menaced and the British Government had to intervene.

1843.—A short struggle resulted in the defeat of the Boers, and Natal was annexed by Great Britain on May 12, 1843, "for the peace, protection and salutary control of all classes of men settled at and surrounding this important portion of South Africa."

1848.—For similar reasons the country lying between the Orange and Vaal Rivers immediately below the present Transvaal Republic, which had been seized by the Boers was also taken possession of by the British. There was a stout resistance, but it was subdued, and the country was re-annexed to Great Britain under the title of the Orange River Sovereignty.

THE SAND RIVER CONVENTION.

1852.—The Little England policy being in the ascendant at home, and sick of the duty of protecting the natives, a policy of scuttling was decided on. The British authority theoretically extended up to the 25th degree of latitude, which included the territory north of the Vaal of which another division of the Boers had taken forcible possession, driving the natives before them and parceling out the land into farms. Under an agreement known as the Sand River Convention, Great Britain formally renounced all rights over the Transvaal. The raiding of the natives and the seizure of their children as slaves, led however, to the following article being embodied in the Convention:—"It is agreed that no slavery is or shall be permitted or practised in the country to the north of the Vaal River by the emigrant farmers."

1854.—By another Convention Great Britain relinquished authority over the Orange River Sovereignty which is now known as the Orange Free State. One of the first uses the Boer of the Transvaal made of their independence was to get rid of the missionaries, who preached pestilential doctrines of equality. Dr. Livingstone states in his "Missionary Travels" that it was the attempt to drive him out which brought him to a determination to make his famous journey across Africa. The missionaries were constant witnesses of the capture of native children by Boer commands and angered the Boers by their protests.

REVOLT OF THE NATIVES AND COLLAPSE OF THE REPUBLIC.

1860.—Paul Kruger makes his first appearance as a leader at the head of a troop against the Acting President (one Schoenian) in one of the numerous faction-fights that occurred between the rival candidates for power. These and the incessant raids on the natives kept the Republic in a state of constant turmoil. The Boers refused to pay their taxes, and the finances fell into a serious condition.

1871, et seq.—After a long tussle between rival leaders, Mr. Burgers was appointed President. He was in some respects an able and conscientious man, but he was powerless to establish discipline over an ignorant and lawless race, and it was in his time that the worst crisis came. He obtained a loan from the Cape to replenish the empty exchequer, he endeavoured to establish a system of education,

and he spent his private fortune in an abortive attempt to construct a railway to Delagoa Bay. But while Burgers was striving to civilise his barbarians they were carrying on with greater vigour than ever their favourite shot of plundering the native tribes. A sudden check, however, came from the powerful chief Sekkukuni, who became the champion of a section of the long-suffering Bechuanaas, upon a large slice of whose territory the Boers had cast covetous eyes. After some preliminary successes, in which they had used a friendly tribe as cat-paws, the Boers assailed Sekkukuni in his stronghold. They were driven back with great loss, and they fled ignominiously. Out of 1,400 a thousand of the Boers promptly "trekked" home.

ANNEXATION.

1877.—The result of this reverse was to throw all the native tribes who had suffered from Boer oppression into a fever of warlike excitement. For the first time they saw a chance of settling accounts. The prospect was dark for the Boers. They covered under the danger. But it was just as grave for the British territories. A general native rising would involve Natal and probably Cape Colony in danger. The Government anxiously considered the situation, and resolved to send out Sir Theophilus Shepstone with power to examine the position on the spot and, if he deemed it necessary, to formally annex the country and march in a British garrison. It is certain that a large proportion of the Boers themselves desired this measure, if only as a means of escape. Sir Theophilus Shepstone reported to Lord Carnarvon that he received memorials signed by 2,500 Boers out of a total adult male population of 8,000. In a despatch describing his interviews with President Burgers he said the President himself was "persuaded that under the present system of Government the independence of the State could not be maintained." Sir Theophilus Shepstone acted upon the instructions given to him and proclaimed the restoration of British authority in the Transvaal. It was not done until the Volksraad had been convened and declined the President's appeal to it to confer power on the Executive to carry out an alternative scheme. The proclamation was therefore made on April 12, 1877. President Burgers thereupon published a personal "vindication," in which he absolved himself from all blame for the result, bitterly lamenting the factious strife and demoralisation that had led to it, and denouncing especially the conduct of Mr. Kruger in his reckless intrigues against him and all who barred his way to power. "Fruitlessly," he says, "did I press upon him by showing how our danger lay in our want of unity, how the British Government would have cause to step in on the ground of humanity to avert a civil war, to prevent a general rising of the natives &c. He would not hear of retiring." So much for the annexation which we are told was such a monstrous blot upon the honour of Lord Beaconsfield's Government that we were bound to undo it three years later. Parliament received the intelligence with tranquillity and even with satisfaction, and scarcely a protest was heard among responsible politicians.

"BRITISH TERRITORY AS LONG AS THE SUN SHINE."

1879.—Very little was heard from the Boers in the way of protest against the new order of things until they saw that the Zulu power, which had so terrified them, had been finally broken by the British army. That was done in the early part of 1879, and then they began to pose as martyrs and to agitate for the retrocession of the country. Sir Garnet Wolseley was appointed High Commissioner, and went straight from Zululand to the Transvaal in September 1879. He at once began to destroy any illusion which the Boers might have about a retrocession. On his way up he made the emphatic statement at a public dinner at Wakkerstroom that the Transvaal would remain British territory "as long as the sun shone. As the Boers, knew Mr. Gladstone better than Sir Garnet Wolseley. But that was the effect of these out and out assurances on English traders in South Africa. Secure in the pledged word of the representative of the Queen and the Government, they flocked into the Transvaal by hundreds and invested their money in its industries and trade, and prepared to settle down with their families.

MR. GLADSTONE'S INCITEMENTS TO REVOLT.

1880.—What followed? Within a couple of months—November 1879—Mr. Gladstone went down to Mid-Lothian. It was his first pilgrimage of passion against Lord Beaconsfield, and he made the annexation of the Transvaal one of the chief counts in his indictment, although neither he nor any other leading Liberal had made any distinct complaint before. We had established security and order and a healthy finance, and then Messrs. Kruger, Pretorius, Joubert, and Co. said:—"Ho! the enemy hath done all our dirty work. He has settled our accounts with Cetewayo and Sekkukuni, and paid our bills. Come let us re-assert our claim to independence." What was the value of Gladstone two months afterwards was found treating the annexation as an outrage and a first mischievous reference—it was made at Dalkeith on November 26, 1879:—

"In the Transvaal we have chosen most unwisely—I am tempted to say insanely—to put ourselves in the strange predicament of the free subjects of a Monarch going to coerce the free subjects of a Republic, and compel them to accept a citizenship which they decline and refuse."

In another speech in the same campaign Mr. Gladstone said:—

"What is the meaning of adding places like Cyprus and places like the country of the Boers in South Africa to the British Empire? And moreover, I would say this: that if those acquisitions were as valuable as they were valueless, I would repudiate them, because they are obtained by means dishonourable to the character of our country."

Mr. Gladstone's speeches were received with enthusiasm in the Transvaal. They were distributed among the Boers by the Dutch papers on small slips. On March 18, 1880, at a meeting of the Boer Committee, held on a farm near Wonderfontein, a letter was drawn up thanking Mr. Gladstone for the sympathy. A week later the British Parliament was dissolved. The friend of the Boers was returned to power with a large majority. The Boers were elated beyond all precedent.

As soon as Mr. Gladstone had become Prime Minister, Messrs. Kruger and Joubert wrote to him (May 10) recalling his speeches and formally calling upon him to annul the annexation. But Mr. Gladstone in Opposition and Mr. Gladstone in office were two different persons. Before the letter arrived the new Government had laid down their policy with respect to the Transvaal. In the Queen's Speech on the 20th May occurred this passage:—

"In maintaining my supremacy over the Transvaal, with its diversified population, I desire both to make provision for the security of the indigenous races and to extend to the European settlers institutions based on large and liberal principles of self government."

Mr. Gladstone defended this change of front by saying that "it is quite possible to accept the consequences of a policy and yet to retain the original difference of opinion with regard to the character of that policy. What Mr. Chamberlain said may be of special interest at this juncture:—

"The conclusion at which they (the Ministry) arrived after some hesitation and regret, but finally with no doubt whatever, was that whatever they might think of the original act of annexation, they could not safely or wisely abandon the territory."

The decision of the Government was communicated to South Africa by telegram as follows:—"Under no circumstances can the Queen's authority in the Transvaal be relinquished."

Now came the delicate matter of Mr. Gladstone's replying to the letter of Messrs. Kruger and Joubert. It was written in his best style of political casuistry. The substance of it is here:—

"Looking to all the circumstances, both of the Transvaal and the rest of South Africa, and orders which might lead to disastrous consequences, not only to the Transvaal but to the whole of South Africa, our judgment is that the Queen cannot be advised to relinquish her sovereignty over the Transvaal, but consistently with the maintenance of that sovereignty we desire that the white inhabitants of the Transvaal should, without prejudice to the rest of the population enjoy the fullest liberty to manage their own affairs. We believe that this liberty may be most easily and promptly conceded to the Transvaal as a member of a South Africa Confederation."

This reply naturally astonished and exasperated the Boers. All over the country a simmer of violence broke out. In the course of a month or two it manifested itself in a determination to refuse to pay taxes. Towards the end of the year this became an organised policy. The British authorities selected a case for enforcement at Potchefstroom. This rallied the Boers to a focus. A mass meeting was held at Paarde Kraal. It lasted from December 8 to 13, and resulted in a determination to rise in arms. A triumvirate consisting of Kruger, Joubert, and Pretorius was appointed to administer the government; three commanders were organised and dispatched to take possession of various towns, and on December 1 the flag of the revolt was hoisted. One of the commanders succeeded in intercepting a detachment of the 94th Regiment at a spot known as Bronker's Spruit. The first intimation our troops received of what was afoot was a storm of bullets. Then Colonel Anstruther was summoned to surrender. He refused and then there followed a terrific onslaught, almost amounting to a massacre.

THE QUEEN'S AUTHORITY TO BE VINDICATED.

1881.—Mr. Gladstone's first response to the act of rebellion was a stern and uncompromising aspect. He summoned Parliament early in January, and the Queen's Speech contained the following decisive paragraph:—

"A rising in the Transvaal has recently imposed upon me the duty of taking military measures, with a view to the prompt vindication of my authority, and has of necessity for the time set aside any plan for securing to the European settlers that full control over their own local affairs, without prejudice to the interests of the natives, which I had been desirous to confer."

On January 21—a week before the first British defeat at Laing's Nek—Mr. Peter Rylands moved a resolution in the House of Commons condemning the annexation of the Transvaal and deprecating the measures taken by the Government to enforce British supremacy. Mr. Gladstone was still full of military ardour, and stoutly resisted the motion. He declared that they were bound by the Speech from the throne and that the Government were precluded from entertaining the idea of any grant of a free Legislature to the Transvaal until the Boers had submitted.

LAING'S NEK AND MAJUBA HILL.

On January 28, Sir George Colley was repulsed in his attempt to storm Laing's Nek, a narrow and steep pass across the Drakensburg Mountains, which separates the Transvaal from Natal. He had only 1,000 men, while the Boers were strongly posted with about 4,000, all picked shots. Colley was urged to wait for reinforcements, but he thought the garrisons needed no help, had pushed madly on. A still more miserable exhibition of rashness was the next engagement on the Ingogo River where our troops were caught in the open and riddled by the Boers from the rock cover. Under cover of night Colley crept back and so escaped annihilation. His small British force was now reinforced by some troops under the command of Sir Evelyn Wood, whom he sent back to Natal, intending to make a bold and rapid effort to retrieve his disasters. This took the form of the wild climb up Majuba Hill a mountain 6,000 feet high and 3,000 feet above the camp level. What his idea was in gaining this worthless position will never be known, but if he thought he would be at least secure he proved to be fatally wrong. The Boers were plainly startled to find him there. It is almost a fortress in itself owing to its steep and rugged slopes, but the Boers knew it better than any body, and being strongly reinforced made the famous rush that overwhelmed General Colley. They made their attack on three sides and so dispersed the attention of the British force.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SURRENDER.

Majuba was fought and lost on February 27. But two or three weeks prior to that, and soon after Laing's Nek, the wires were carrying messages designed to stop the vindication of the Queen's authority. President Brand, of the Orange Free State, began the overtures and the Government offered a settlement on the Boers ceasing armed opposition. That message arrived while Ingogo was on progress on February 8. On the 13th General Colley received a cool communication from Kruger requiring a cancellation of the annexation and offering thereupon to allow the British troops to retire. Lord Kimberley telegraphed on the 16th offer

ing to submit a scheme to a Royal Commission on the Boers laying down their arms; then no progress was made till the Majuba disaster brought Mr. Gladstone to his knees. He did Sir Frederick Roberts to be sent out from England with large reinforcements but while they were on their way he took care to say their services should not be required. An armistice was arranged, and Sir Evelyn Wood was instructed on March 12 to promise complete internal self-government under British suzerainty. These were the terms the Boer accepted and signed at O'Neill's farm under the shadow of Majuba on March 26. They had won all their battles and they had achieved the full aims with which they revolted.

The story we proposed to tell ends here. The rest is more modern and more humdrum history and is well known. Let us epitomise the sequence of events so far as Mr. Gladstone's action is concerned:—

April, 1877.—Annexation of the Transvaal. Mr. Gladstone acquiesces.

November 1879.—Mr. Gladstone opens his election campaign by denouncing as "unwise and almost insane" the "coercion of the free subjects of a Republic."

May 1880.—Mr. Gladstone as Prime Minister tells the Boers in answer to their memorial asking him to prove his sincerity that "under no circumstances can the Queen's authority in the Transvaal be relinquished."

January 1881.—Mr. Gladstone in the Queen's Speech on the revolt declares the determination of the Government to vindicate the authority of the throne.

February 1881.—Mr. Gladstone surrenders the country to the rebels after three defeats of the British forces.

MAIL NEWS.

A PANIC occurred at a bull-fight held on Sunday at Denil, near Enghien-les-Bains, a few miles from Paris. About 7,000 persons were admitted to the enclosure, which was built of wood. The bull at first appeared inclined to charge the picador, but suddenly swung round and made for the side of the ring. The animal cleared the two fences and was then among the people. The utmost consternation prevailed, and in their endeavour to escape many of the sightseers were thrown down and trampled upon, some of them sustaining severe injuries. Meanwhile the bull found a passage under the wooden stands and made his way into the country. Matadors and gendarmes went in pursuit, one of the latter being tossed by the infuriated animal before he was struck by a bullet and finally killed. The management proposed to continue the fight, but the authorities intervened and the Deputy Prefect of Pontoise Denil until precautions had been taken with a view to assure the public safety.

THE Board of Trade have been informed by the Foreign Office that a prize of 100,000 frs. has been founded by the heirs of the late Mr. Anthony Pollok, of Washington, to be awarded during the Universal Exhibition which is to be held in Paris in 1900, to the inventor of the best apparatus for the saving of life in cases of maritime disaster. The prize is open to universal competition. This sum is now in deposit with the American Security and Trust Company of Washington, D. C., and will be paid over to the successful competitor when a decision shall have been rendered by an appointed jury and formally communicated to the Secretary of State of the United States through the Commissioner-General of the United States to the International Exhibition of 1900. The juror selected on behalf of the Government of the United States is Lieutenant William S. Sims, U. S. N., naval attaché of the Embassy of the United States at Paris. In considering the award the jury will be governed by the following conditions:—(1) The total amount of the prize may be awarded to a single individual on condition that the invention is of sufficient practical value and importance to justify the proposed award; (2) should several persons enter inventions of equal value, the jury, as it shall consider right and just, may award a portion of the prize to each; (3) should none of the inventions entered be of sufficient value to entitle it to the prize the jury may reject any and all of them; but at the same time shall be empowered to indemnify competing inventors in such amounts as may be deemed advisable.

MAJOR R. ROSS and other members of the Liverpool medical expedition, who have been carrying on the investigations on the West Coast of Africa respecting the dissemination of malarial fever, have arrived at Plymouth in the steamship *Fantes*, from Legos. Major Ross stated that the expedition had been at work only six weeks, but that its labours had been very successful. The authorities at Sierra Leone had, on the advice of the expedition, decided to use every means to exterminate the malaria-spreading mosquito. Other conditions in West Africa were favourable to health, there being a good water supply. He thought, however, that the white population was not careful enough, and that the houses were badly constructed, and compared unfavourably with the residences of whites in India, which were constructed on plans that gave the inhabitants every chance of health, despite the tropical climate. Major Ross attached great importance to this question of the construction and situation of the houses. Dr. Fielding Ould, a member of the expedition, remained behind to consult with the medical officers on the coast respecting measures to be taken for the extermination of the malarial mosquito in the neighbourhood of the principal towns. The opinion of the party was that these measures would decrease the danger of the spread of the disease. One member of the expedition, Mr. Austin, suffered from malaria, and was thus infected; but he was now convalescent. Major Ross, who belongs to the Indian medical service, has been engaged for five years in investigations respecting the cause of malarial fever.

The oldest bride in the world is probably the one who is just now receiving the congratulations of her friends in one of the towns of Kansas. Few people, indeed, will question the claim to the distinction of Mrs. James Morgan, for she was within a month of celebrating her 103rd birthday, while her husband is seventy-one. They have both heard the marriage ceremony before, she having previously had three husbands, and he two wives.

AFGHANISTAN.

ALLEGED ATROCITIES AT CABUL.

THE St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* sent the following somewhat sensational telegram on Oct. 5:—

According to reports from Russian authorities in Central Asia, the Ameer of Afghanistan is growing insane, and serious troubles are impending in that country. Not only is Abdul Rahman unaccountably suspicious towards all Europeans there, but he openly regards the contribution paid to him by the Anglo-Indian Government as a subsidy for defending English territories from Russian attacks, and considers himself entitled at any moment to join hands with Russia—on condition, however, that the Czar's representatives will pay him well enough.

Recent occurrences in Cabul gave rise to the fear that the Ameer may sooner or later provoke a conflict between Russia and Great Britain. Dissimulation is a marked trait in Abdul Rahman's nature. He had formed the intention of leaving Cabul for Massari-Chir, where he would be in a better position for communicating with the Russian Government. His little plan, however, was discovered in time. The discovery drove Abdul Rahman into a state of fury, and when the journey had been abandoned, to commit all sorts of excesses.

A number of Afghans had talked at a bazaar of his intention to leave for Massari-Chir. He ordered these to be arrested and to have their tongues cut out.

This did not completely satisfy his blood-thirsty instincts. At Cabul at present, according to Russian accounts, he is sanctioning a series of terrible murders, which confirm the impression that the Ameer has become insane. The last of the atrocities committed there had a high official for its victim. His legs were bound to two stakes of wood, which were fixed cross-wise one upon the other. Then the woods were drawn apart until his body was torn in two. Two other officials in high places, Mirza-Abdoul-Halim and Mirza-Abdoul-Hakim, were bound together and set on fire, and a Persian is alleged to have been thrown into a boiler and his remains thrown to the Ameer's dogs.

In addition to these atrocities, reports are received of executions taking place every day. In consequence, an enormous number of Afghans are leaving Cabul. They are seeking safety in the mountainous regions around or upon the Russian frontier. Largely on account of the disturbed condition of things in Cabul, and in order to stop incursions of Afghans into Russian territory, the Russian forces on the frontier are being strengthened considerably. All the actions and plans of Abdul Rahman are inexplicable, save on the theory that he is growing hopelessly insane. Russia is watching affairs in Afghanistan very closely, because grave events are taking place there, and because the health of the Ameer is growing worse, and worse and his position more and more insecure.

THE SENSATIONAL REPORTS DISCREDITED.

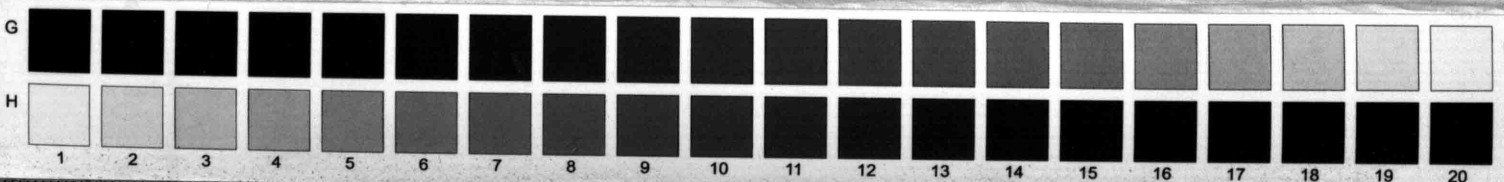
The *Central News* made inquiries on Oct. 10 at the London office of the Afghanistan Government with regard to the above reports. Mr. Guthrie, besides being the accredited representative of the Afghanistan Government, in England, is a personal friend of the Ameer, whose guest he was at Cabul for an extended period. He had no hesitation in saying that there was absolutely no truth in the statement. As recently as the 10th he received not only business but private advice from the Ameer himself and from the Sultana, who is his Majesty's favourite wife and his leading adviser. The Ameer said his health was good, and this was confirmed by the Sultana, who added, "It is all well here." These letters were written on the 18th of last month.

In answer to the suggestion that the development reported might have taken place since the advice were penned, Mr. Guthrie pointed out that his Afghanistan information is not confined to the Ameer and the Queen, as she is popularly termed in official circles in Cabul. Mr. Guthrie is in close touch with the highest officials at the Ameer's Court and moreover he has a son in the Peshawar Office of the Afghanistan Government from whom he receives any important news by cable. But even if he had not these many sources of obtaining news of the latest developments in the Ameer's country, the fact that the report came from St. Petersburg would, Mr. Guthrie says, be sufficient to make him discredit it. Russia, he says, is the very last quarter from which to expect authentic Afghan news.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

A *Fueter* telegram from Mombasa, dated October 7, says:—Mr. H. J. Mackinder, leader of the Mount Kenya expedition, sails to-day homeward. Some Europeans remain at railroad, but they will sail at the end of the month. The expedition was successful, and the summit of Mount Kenya was reached at the third attempt. It is over 17,000 feet high. Fifteen glaciers were discovered, including two large ones. The health of the Europeans is excellent, in spite of the hardships they have undergone. Mount Kenya was reached by a new route through Meranga, and the party returned over the Settima range.

The Swiss newspapers announce the forthcoming "launch" of a new air ship over—not on—the Lake of Constance. The inventor is Count von Zeppelin, a retired German officer, who has for many years studied the question of steering balloons. He now claims to have solved the problem of the light motor. An aeroplane built by him is reported to have developed sufficient power to tow a boat on the River Inn at a speed of nine miles an hour. To minimise the risks of an unforeseen fall, the Count has selected the Lake of Constance as the scene of his decisive experiment. Its area of over 300 square miles will, he believes, be sufficient to enable him to execute all necessary evolutions. The vessel is "moored" at Friedrichshafen, and is supported by sixty pontoons. There is a gaswork in the vicinity. The inventor keeps the mechanism of his air-ship secret, and has taken stringent precautions to warn off the curious. All that is known is that the vessel's proportions are immense—over 550 feet long and nearly five feet in diameter. It is cylindrical, with conical extremities, and is divided internally by strong partitions. The "hull" is of silk, stretched over a skeleton of aluminium. The power is supplied by two motors placed beneath the cylinder one at each end. The propelling principle is the ordinary screw, but there are three special devices for steering. Count Zeppelin declares that his machine will be able to rise to a height of over 3,000 feet, lift a weight of nearly two tons, travel at a speed of ten yards a second and remain in the air for a week at a time.



UNDER THE THAMES.

It was a curious experience. To be hauled up in the air by a steam crane from a wooden staging in the Thames, and then lowered down through some thirty feet of river, and then thirty feet further below the river bed into a misty little passage-way twinkling with lights, and smelling of the earth earthy, is a transition so sudden and startling as not to be wholly pleasant. Only two or three minutes previously (writes a *Daily Chronicle's* representative) I was standing on the Embankment by Charing-cross Railway, bridge looking at the staging that stands on piles stuck in the river, and now I suddenly found myself some sixty feet below the Embankment roadway, with delicate engineering works going on all round.

The staging in the river is the only outward sign of the silent revolution going on below. Everybody passing along the Embankment notices the place. You can't help noticing it, such a conspicuous object it is in the river standing some 200 feet away from the Embankment. The eye catches the notice board at once, announcing "Baker-street and Waterloo Railway." But that leaves one very little wiser. There is an air of seclusion and mystery about the place. Standing out there in the river it looks completely cut off from mortal ken. You see men moving to and fro on the staging, you see the palpitating little cranes hard at work, you see steam and smoke rising from a formidable array of funnels that look like so many organ pipes, and the wonder is what all these things have to do with a new railway.

The reason the river is chosen as a centre for the underground works of an electrical railway is a financial one. The two or three hundred pounds paid in dues to the Conservancy is a trifle by the side of what would have to be paid as rent for other sites. Then the facility with which the excavated earth can be removed is another point in the saving. Here the cranes haul the clay direct from the trucks below, and tangle it into barges. Anywhere in London carts would have to be used at a very much greater cost. The City and Waterloo electric line was constructed successfully from a staging near the south side of Blackfriars, and the same engineers, Messrs. Calbraith and Church, having charge of the new Baker-street line, naturally hit upon the same device.

There was some trouble in finding a suitable site, owing to the treacherous nature of the river bed. Experiments were made in various parts of the river, until at last the present site was selected opposite the National Liberal Club.

Two shafts were sunk from the river staging to the line level, some 30ft. below the bed of the river. From these the up and the down tunnel were commenced. Nowadays, it is hardly necessary to say that the Greathead shield is used in all such work. The tunnelling, so far, has gone in one direction only, that is towards Baker-street. The more dangerous work of tunnelling under the deepest part of the river to get to Waterloo is to be left until later. Compressed air will have to be used, and the fittings are now being put in ready for use.

Immediately below the Embankment I saw the works in progress for the first station. This will be known as the Embankment Station to be the first stopping place from Waterloo. It lies some 65ft. below the roadway, in a direct line with the cab-rank at the bottom of Northumberland-avenue. A portion of the station lies under the District Railway tunnel.

From this point I was taken through one of the tunnels in a direct line with Northumberland-avenue as far as Trafalgar-square. We journeyed on a small electric locomotive, with a gauge not wider than two and a-half feet. The rattling little engine take the current from an overhead wire, and as we sped through the tunnel the electric sparks thrown off in its passage lit up the iron segments in a wonderful way. No castle of Udolpho ever had such fantastic underground passages.

We could get no further than a point under the roadway of Trafalgar-square. Here we found swarthy men at work on the face of the clay. The greatest advance that can be made in a day and a night for the work never stops not even on Sundays is 1ft., but under Trafalgar-square only half that distance is excavated in the twenty-four hours. That is because extra precautions have to be taken here. Although the works are some 60ft. below the roadway, there is danger that the weight of the Nelson Column and neighbouring buildings may force the earth into the tunnel. Hence the need for additional precautions and slow advance.

The men at the front excavating the clay, are experienced miners, and they use picks. Behind them other men shovel the earth into trucks, which are hauled off to the bottom of the shaft at the river staging. The clay goes up and the segments that form the tunnel come down, and are quickly run to the heading by the miniature locomotive.

The men are very deft at swinging the heavy segments into position. These segments are 20 in. wide, and six of them, with a key-piece at the top, complete the circle of the tunnel. The outside of the iron tube is covered with a layer of lime-grouted, as the men call it—and the interior is faced with concrete. The up and down tunnels for the most part lie side by side, except at a point south of the river, where one will run under the other for some distance, just before the Waterloo terminus is reached.

At Trafalgar-square the second station after the terminus is being constructed. This one will be known as Caring-cross. In a few weeks the tunnel will have been bored beyond the square and the line continued into the Haymarket, thence to Piccadilly-circus, where the works in connection with the tried station are already well on the way. From Piccadilly the tunnel will be carried in a line with Regent-street to Oxford-circus, where the fourth station is soon to be started. The line will then run on to the terminus at Baker-street. Here a good deal of tunnelling has already been done.

While the chief works are being directed from the river staging off the Embankment, shafts have also been sunk at Piccadilly and Baker-street. Very shortly operations will also be begun at Oxford-circus. By this means it is calculated that all the stations and approaches will have been completed by the time the boring of the tunnels is complete. In three years from now it is hoped the cars will be running.

The new line will secure four important junctions with other railway systems. It secures a connection between north and south by linking up the Great Central terminus at Marylebone with the south-western terminus at Waterloo. On the way a connection is made with the District Railway at the Embankment Station, and one is secured with the new Central London Railway at Oxford-circus.

The number of scholars in public and private institutions in the North-West Provinces and Oudh during the past year increased by 21,653; the number of institutions by 225; and the expenditure by Rs. 43,928. The actual increase in the expenditure on colleges and schools was Rs. 78,115 (which includes an increased expenditure of Rs. 48,825 on the Thomason Civil Engineering College, Roorkee) but this is reduced by a diminution in the outlay on scholarships and other charges. The greater part of the increase in scholars took place among boys in primary schools: the number of girls also in primary schools increased appreciably, and thought there was a reduction in the attendance of girls at public middle schools. In reference to the state of education in different parts of the Provinces, the report shows that Fyzabad and Gorakhpur, which were remarked on last year by Government as the two most backward divisions, have each an increased percentage of male scholars to male population of school-going age; and that the more backward tracts generally are receiving the special attention of the Department.

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Mr. Justice P. C. Chatterji, of Lahore.

I have used the perfumed oil Kuntaline manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, as well as his Essence Chanel, and consider both exceedingly good. At the same time they are cheaper than articles of similar quality prepared by European manufacturers. I hope the public generally and native community in particular will largely patronize Mr. Madan Gopal, Barrister-at-law, Lahore.

I have much pleasure in saying that Kuntaline is an excellent hair oil and the ladies of my family consider it to be an excellent preparation. The "Delkhosh" Essence I consider to be very superior to English perfumes.

Lala Lajpat Rai, Pleader, Chief Court Lahore.

I have used Mr. H. Bose's Kuntaline oil and Scents and found them really good. They are in no way inferior to similar articles prepared by European manufacturers.

Mr. Kali Prassonh Roy, Government Pleader and leader of the Lahore Bar.

I have pleasure in stating that the oils and perfumery manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, are excellent and nowise inferior to articles of English manufacture.

Dewan Krishna Kishore, Reis, Grandson of Dewan Bhagwan Das, Lahore.

Your Kuntaline and Essences have given me entire satisfaction. The oil has a very sweet fragrance and does not make the hair sticky. The Essences are simply nice.

Maharajah J gindra Nath Bahadur of Natore.

I have much pleasure in certifying that I have had occasion to introduce the use of Kuntaline in my family. I was satisfied with its superior fragrance, and its tendency to promote the growth of hair. It is the best of its kind, and its wider circulation is desirable.

The Honble Surendra Nath Banerji, President of the Eleventh Indian National Congress.

I tried Mr. H. Bose's Essences, and have no hesitation in recommending them both on account of their excellence, and also because home-made articles of this kind should be encouraged.

Raj 1-Rajman Maharaj Asaf Nawazawant

Murli Manohar B h.dur, Hyderabad.

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I have pleasure to say that your Essences or Flower Extracts have given me entire satisfaction. Please send another box of the finest quality Essences which I want to present to HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM.

Mr. N. Vinkata Rao, Assistant Commissioner Mangalore.

I am very much pleased with your Essences "Delkhosh" and "White Rose."

Sreejukt Shankar Rao Holkar, Bhyr Sahib, Karkhandar Sh gresha Indore State.

I am glad to inform you that your Milk of Roses and Kuntaline have given me entire satisfaction.

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